

Iraqis take ACC Champions' Cup

AMMAN (I.T.) — Egypt's team Abhi beat hosts Faisali 1-0 at the Al Hussein Sports City Friday night to hand overall victory in the first Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) Champions' Cup to Iraq's Zavra. Thursday night, Zavra had beaten the Yemeni team Abhi Sam'a 2-0 which left them with six points at the end of their three games. A win by Faisali would have given them seven points and the title, but on Friday they failed to rise to the occasion, turning in an uninspiring performance and never really looking dangerous. The goal, a header by Ahmad Rizeq from a corner, came in the 75th minute after the Egyptian team had mounted a constant barrage of imaginative attacks, passing and running into space. Watching the match were His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, who distributed medals at the end of the match, His Royal Highness Prince Ra'ad, Prime Minister Shariif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and Minister of Youth Awad Khatib. Crowd attendance was around 22,000; Faisali ended the competition in third place, behind Zavra and the Egyptian Abhi and ahead of Abhi Sam'a.

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His Majesty King Hussein Thursday addresses Upper House of Parliament members and Jordanian journalists (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

King: Hostile plots mainly behind Jordan's economic difficulties

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that Jordan's present economic difficulties stem largely from hostile conspiracies aimed to destabilise the Kingdom and undermine its security. Addressing a meeting of Upper House of Parliament (Senate) members and Jordanian journalists held at the Royal Court, King Hussein said Thursday that Jordan had always served as a target for hostile campaigns and that "hostile forces had been hoping that Jordan would succumb and give concessions at the expense of its dignity and honour."

But, the King added, "this can never happen and Jordan will not bargain over its rights. Jordanians are always ready to die for the country and will not give up Arab rights in Holy Jerusalem."

Despite the current difficulties the country is facing, King Hussein said, he is confident that Jordan will overcome the hardships, trusting in the cooperation of its citizens and continued support from Arab states.

King Hussein said he felt an overwhelming support from the Jordanian people during his recent tour of the provinces and witnessed a real determination on the part of Jordanians to bear the hardships and confront the challenges.

King Hussein referred to government measures to deal with the economic circumstances and said that the Central Bank had been given with full authority to act independently and freely to replenish the country's foreign

exchange reserves. This step, he said, is designed to stabilise the dinar and to restore confidence in the national currency.

The King said Jordan would soon witness a return to parliamentary life. Parliament, he noted, will be based on full exercise of nomination and election rights, within the framework of the constitution.

King Hussein described Jordan-Palestinian relations as excellent. He said that the Palestine cause had won world-wide attention and support following Jordan's decision to sever formal links with the West Bank.

Upper House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi voiced the Senate's full support for the government's steps to bolster the national economy.

Jordanian Press Association President Hasbein Khreisat said journalists would shoulder their responsibility in enabling the country to confront and deal with the present difficult economic situation.

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker was among officials attending the meeting.

King Hussein earlier made a statement to an American newspaper calling on the United States to enter into a more serious dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and to help subdue Israel's extremist elements so as to promote the cause of peace in the Middle East.

The King told the Wall Street Journal that President Bush was

well aware of the Middle East problems because he had visited the region and familiarised himself with its issues. King Hussein criticised former President Ronald Reagan for missing several peace opportunities.

The King said that his latest visit to Washington had convinced him of the need for American Jews as well as the administration to work for peace in the Middle East.

The King said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's election proposal could not be taken seriously, because Israel had not explained which Palestinians would be allowed to vote and the future role of those to be elected.

The King said Israel was wrong to believe that elections would yield leaders who could serve as substitutes for the PLO "because the Palestinians are well aware of Israel's plots to cause splits in their ranks."

Jordan's severance of links with the West Bank, the King said, led to a series of developments and brought about a new responsible and realistic Palestinian stand. Furthermore, he noted, the decision removed all lingering doubts about Jordan's intentions with regard to the occupied territories and cleared the air of any remaining mistrust.

King Hussein expressed his concern over the escalation of the Lebanese civil war and called on all foreign troops to leave the country to pave the way for a meaningful action towards the restoration of peace.

students on a hunger strike in Peking's Tiananmen Square. Peking Mayor Chen Xitong told Friday's committee meeting more than 200 civilians and dozens of soldiers and police were killed during the military operation in Tiananmen Square June 4, the news agency said.

The civilian casualty figure was double the earlier official death toll. On June 6, government spokesman Yuan Mu said fewer than 300 died in all, of whom "more than 100" were soldiers and a similar number civilians. Chen said more than 3,000 civilians were injured, together with more than 6,000 soldiers and police, the agency reported.

Diplomats say between several hundred and thousands of people were killed when tanks and

tion which called for the ceasefire and the reintegration of rebels into Angolan society in an attempt to end the 14-year Angolan civil war.

He accepts to sit out of Angolan politics for two years before fighting free elections against Dos Santos' Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

But government officials have said Savimbi recognises the guiding role of the MPLA and agrees to leave Angola "voluntarily and temporarily."

Little-known brigadier takes reins, announces 'Revolutionary Council'

Coup in Sudan; Mahdi toppled

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudanese troops seized power in Khartoum Friday, toppling the government of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi.

The coup was announced on state-run radio Omdurman by a little-known army officer Brigadier Omar Hassan Ahmad Al Bashir, who identified himself as president of a new "Revolutionary Council" and declared a state of emergency.

Troops shut off bridges and seized strongpoints in the capital and appeared to have rounded up ministers and some generals in the coup which was launched before dawn.

A Reuters correspondent reported that he saw armed men escorting Mahdi and some of his ministers in a convoy driving at full speed towards Kobar prison, Khartoum's main jail.

In north Khartoum, people took to the streets to demonstrate support for the takeover and the coup did not appear to have met major resistance in the capital.

It followed months of political turmoil in Africa's largest country with the army and government clashing over how to end a civil war in south Sudan and solve a

grim economic crisis.

Proclaiming the "June Revolution," Bashir told the country: "Your armed forces have come to carry out a tremendous revolution for the sake of change after suffering which included deterioration in everything to the extent that your lives have become paralysed."

The brigadier said he would be appointed head of state, prime minister, minister of defence and commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Announcing the dissolution of the constitution, parliament and political parties, Bashir said the Revolutionary Council was now the supreme body ruling Sudan's 25 million people.

He said it was empowered to appoint cabinet ministers.

The state radio broadcast martial music, interspersed with pledges of support for the takeover which were said to have been received from various military garrisons.

"The volcano which erupted in the small hours of today's glorious morning proves to the Sudanese as well as to the whole world that the generation of anger does not cover before sup-

pression nor does it crack before scorn," the radio said.

A key reason cited by Bashir for the takeover was that Mahdi had failed to end the southern civil war, but the coup's effect on current moves toward peace was unknown.

In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where a new round of peace talks was scheduled for next Tuesday, spokesman Edward Lino of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said it was premature to speak about the situation. He said the rebels had not heard from Khartoum about the fate of Tuesday's planned talks.

Eyewitnesses said a tank Thursday night crashed through the gates of the home of Idris Al Banna, acting chairman of the Supreme Council, Sudan's collective presidency.

Banna and army commander General Fathi Ahmad Ali, who lives nearby, were led away by troops, the witnesses said.

Troops closed the airport, seized the presidential palace and set up roadblocks.

Sudanese authorities said 12 days ago that they had failed a plot to return former president Jaafar Numeiri to power by shell-

ing parliament as Mahdi addressed the assembly.

Fourteen army officers and nearly 50 civilians were reported arrested in the fourth alleged plot against Mahdi since he took power in April, 1986. Numeiri, exiled in Egypt, denied there was any plot.

Last February, army officers gave Mahdi an ultimatum, demanding political reforms and that he either end the six-year-old war in the south or give the military more weapons to fight the rebels.

Bashir accused the government and political parties of sewing disunity and failing to back the armed forces in the war. He heaped blame on Mahdi for Sudan's political and economic crisis.

"The people are fed up with politics and partisanship," he said.

The coup announcement stressed the Arab status of Sudan's new leadership.

"The armed forces' motivation is a pan-Arab one, an appreciation and protection of the country's integrity," the radio said.

A veteran of the civil war, Bashir was the paratroop corps'

third-ranking officer before the coup. He appeared to be the officer identified only as Brig Omar Hassan.

In a subsequent statement, Bashir said his takeover was neither partisan nor sectarian and appeared to disavow any connection with Numeiri.

"The national salvation revolution is a genuine Sudanese revolution, the revolution of a people who rose up against tyranny, corruption, partisanship and sectarianism," the statement said.

"It's a national revolution, neither leftist nor rightist, not partisan, not Marxist, not racist. It's a revolution for the sons of this great nation, who have been patient and who have suffered."

In Sudan, "Mayist refers to followers of Numeiri, who seized power in a military coup May 25, 1969, and called his 16-year rule the "May revolution."

His Defence Minister, Abdul Rahman Swardeddahab, overthrew Numeiri in April 1985 and ruled for a year. Swardeddahab's military council surrendered power in April 1986 to Mahdi, whose Umma Party won a parliamentary majority in military-organised elections.

U.S. to make new Mideast proposals

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — The United States has told the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) it will make new proposals to break a deadlock over Israel's election plan for Palestinians, according to a PLO leader.

The United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Bayan said PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo told it the U.S. side had raised the prospect at a meeting in Tunis last month.

"The American side told U.S... their administration will present a memorandum to the PLO, including some ideas we have discussed, as well as new ideas," the paper quoted him as saying.

He said this included views on an international peace conference and what he called a comprehensive peace settlement.

Washington had backed the plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The PLO has said it will accept such elections only within the context of such an agreed comprehensive peace settlement.

Meanwhile, Israel said Friday it had protested to Washington over secret meetings between a U.S. envoy and a Palestinian leader.

The foreign ministry said the United States acknowledged its Ambassador to Tunisia Robert Pelletreau twice met Salah Khalaf, second in command to Yasser Arafat.

They were the highest-level contacts since Arafat renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist last December, prompting Washington to end a 13-year boycott of the PLO.

Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel regretted the meetings, describing Khalaf, (Abu Iyad), as the "father of international terrorism."

Foreign ministry spokesman Alon Ael said Ambassador Moshe Arad registered Israel's protest Thursday when he met John Kelly, assistant secretary of state for the Middle East.

Khalaf was quoted by the Kuwaiti News agency KUNA as saying the U.S. administration had instructed Pelletreau to expand his contacts with PLO.

Khalaf said he had met Pelletreau twice and at their most recent meeting Monday had discussed the Israeli proposal for elections.

Khalaf said the latest U.S. move was an important and positive development.

But he said that in spite of the meetings the Americans had no intention of raising the level of contact on their side.

He believed that, if asked, Arafat would meet Pelletreau but said the issue had not been raised.

Settlers 'hike' under army guard

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Some 2,000 Jewish settlers, guarded by a huge Israeli military operation, staged 41 armed, flag-waving hikes through the occupied West Bank Friday.

Organisers said there were no clashes with Palestinians, who see the hikes as provocation.

The marches were called by the Gush Emmunim (bloc of the faithful) settlers' movement to assert the right to walk without fear in the occupied territories.

They followed recent clashes between hiking settlers and Palestinian villagers in which at least two Palestinians have been shot dead and a lone Jewish rambler fatally stabbed.

"This is the best answer to Arab efforts to prevent the Jews from travelling in the land of Israel," contended Shai Ezor, 18, one of 20 right-wing activists who walked, flanked by para-military border guards, through Jeru-

salem's Old City.

The marches were aimed partly at the Israeli government, criticised by settlers for failing to crush the 18-month-old Palestinian uprising or to protect the 70,000 Jewish residents of the occupied territories.

Major-General Amram Mitzna, head of the army's central command, landed in a helicopter and personally ordered armed hikers from the anti-Arab Kach party from entering the village of Battir near Bethlehem.

"This is a minority creating trouble," Mitzna told reporters about two kilometres from the village. "If we have to arrest them, we'll arrest them. We won't let them go anywhere."

Mitzna said soldiers stopped the 20 members of the group headed by American-born rabbi Meir Kahane because they defied army orders to hike only with soldier escorts.

The hikers, armed with automatic rifles, pistols, knives and clubs, turned back when ordered. They marched back towards Jerusalem, carrying Israeli flags and the banners of the Kach party.

In the Gaza Strip, activists declared a three-day general strike to protest the expulsion of eight Palestinians from the seaside strip and the West Bank Thursday.

Similar strikes were reported in the West Bank town of Ramallah and Al Bireh.

Israeli officials defended the expulsions, despite criticism from the United States and the United Nations that they violate the Geneva Convention on treatment of people in occupied lands.

Israel said the eight Palestinians expelled were leaders of the uprising.

While Gush Emmunim said there would be about 40 hikes several of the supposed marches turned out to be trips in cars.

Witnesses in Bani Naim, near Hebron, said about 15 cars of Jewish settlers drove through the West Bank village accompanied by seven cars of soldiers, some firing in the air.

Another convoy of cars drove past three Palestinian flags waving from utility poles or wire.

The army sealed off Hebron and Nablus, declaring them closed military zones. Troops also re-routed some hikes to keep settlers out of the centre of Arab villages.

No clashes were reported but a Reuters photographer who followed hikers near the village of Ustrin, in the northern West Bank, said Arab villagers whistled and jeered from afar.

The army cancelled all leave in the West Bank to guard the hikes. A unit of soldiers led by an officer accompanied each group while commanders criss-crossed the area in helicopters.

Mediators plan Lebanon observer team

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Amid renewed shelling on Friday, Arab mediators charged with bringing peace to Lebanon have new plans for a team of observers to try to enforce a ceasefire and end land and sea blockades, Arab diplomatic sources said.

Syrian-backed Lebanese gunners, continuing their three-month-old siege of the enclave controlled by army commander Michel Aoun, shelled approaches to Aoun-run ports around Beirut.

The diplomatic sources said the heads of state of Morocco, Algeria and Saudi Arabia, who met in Algeria Tuesday, agreed to send observers from their countries, plus one Syrian officer.

Earlier plans for a 320-strong observer force were abandoned during last month's Arab League summit, which set up the heads-of-state mediating committee. The sources, told

Reuters the planned new team would number dozens not hundreds but they had no information on when it might deploy.

At least two people were killed and two wounded in Friday's artillery clashes.

Police said the fatalities were two of four people wounded earlier in the day.

The casualties raised the overall toll from 15 weeks of fighting to 382 killed and 1,499 wounded.

Police said gunners shelled a beach trip north of the capital from positions in west Beirut to maintain a blockade of the besieged Aoun enclave.

Aoun's forces in the 800-square-kilometre enclave retaliated by firing at the artillery emplacements along west Beirut seaside boulevard, police said.

A communique issued by Aoun's headquarters accused the Syrians of violating a ceasefire called by the three Arab

leaders and said this gunners "only responded by shelling the sources of fire."

The Arab League panel met in the Algerian city of Oran Tuesday and called for a halt to "violence in all its forms" in Lebanon for lifting the siege of the enclave.

They also called on Lebanese parliamentarians to meet at a venue of their choice outside the country to forge a settlement to the country's political crisis.

Aoun, told Beirut's independent Al Nahar daily: "I welcome the Oran statement and await its implementation."

Asked to comment on moves to convene parliament outside the country, Aoun said: "The deputies are free to take whatever decisions they want." He had earlier said he opposed the idea.

The Arab summit wants parliament to convene to "draft political reforms" and elect a

new president "who would pledge allegiance to implement the reforms."

Aoun said he was "prepared to negotiate with Syria a timetable for the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon."

Although his forces, estimated at 20,000 troops, are outnumbered 4-1 by Syria and its allies in Lebanon.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has endorsed the league's peacemaking efforts and indicated that Moscow would discuss the issue with Syria and Iraq. Pravda reported Friday (see page 2).

Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi is due in Lebanon next week to discuss the broad outlines of political reform, diplomatic sources said.

Security sources said militia-men from Amal and the pro-Iranian Hizbollah battled in three districts. Syrian troops moved in to contain the fighting.

Zhao stripped of last post

PEKING (Agencies) — Former Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang, denounced for opposing the crackdown on China's pro-democracy movement, was stripped of his last post Friday.

The National People's Congress (NPC) removed Zhao from the state Central Military Commission only days after senior leader Deng Xiaoping fired him from the vice-chairmanship of the commission. The actions completed the purge that began last weekend when Zhao was formally removed as party general secretary.

Zhao fell out of favour with Deng, whose only formal government position is chairman of the military commission, for opposing martial law and the harsh military crackdown on the student-led democracy movement.

In a letter to the NPC, Deng

said, "Since comrade Zhao Ziyang has committed serious mistakes, I proposed his dismissal from the vice-chairmanship of the Central Military Commission," the official Xinhua news said.

The Communist Party's central committee met last weekend and formally ousted Zhao as party secretary.

In his place, it named Jiang Zemin, the former Shanghai mayor and party boss of China's largest city. The committee accused Zhao of splitting the party and supporting the "counterrevolutionary turmoil."

However, Deng's reference to Zhao as "comrade" indicated that the former party chief has retained his membership in the party and will not face trial as a "counterrevolutionary."

Zhao, 69, was last seen May 19 when he made a tearful speech to

students on a hunger strike in Peking's Tiananmen Square. Peking Mayor Chen Xitong told Friday's committee meeting more than 200 civilians and dozens of soldiers and police were killed during the military operation in Tiananmen Square June 4, the news agency said.

The civilian casualty figure was double the earlier official death toll. On June 6, government spokesman Yuan Mu said fewer than 300 died in all, of whom "more than 100" were soldiers and a similar number civilians.

Chen said more than 3,000 civilians were injured, together with more than 6,000 soldiers and police, the agency reported.

Diplomats say between several hundred and thousands of people were killed when tanks and

(Continued on page 5)

Angola: UNITA broke truce

LUANDA (AP) — The Angolan government has accused UNITA rebels of violating a June 24 ceasefire including sabotage of electric power lines that left much of the Angolan capital without power Friday.

A government statement issued by the official news agency, Angop, also said UNITA guerrillas had ambushed a convoy of civilian vehicles wounding 10 people and breaching the truce agreed last week by rebel leader Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Gbadolite, Zaire.

Meanwhile, a UNITA statement Friday rejected government proposals of special treatment for Savimbi during a national reconciliation process agreed at the Gbadolite peace talks.

The UNITA statement monitored in Lisbon, Portugal, from the rebel's southern Angolan stronghold of Jamba said government offers of special treatment were an attempt to divide the rebel movement.

Savimbi's future was left unclear by the Gbadolite declara-

tion which called for the ceasefire and the reintegration of rebels into Angolan society in an attempt to end the 14-year Angolan civil war.

He accepts to sit out of Angolan politics for two years before fighting free elections against Dos Santos' Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

But government officials have said Savimbi recognises the guiding role of the MPLA and agrees to leave Angola "voluntarily and temporarily."

مركز الأمل

Soviets to discuss Lebanon with Syria and Iraq

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has endorsed Arab League efforts to bring peace to Lebanon and indicated that the Soviet Union would discuss the issue with Syria and Iraq, Pravda reported Friday.

Gorbachev spoke about Lebanon Thursday when he met Moroccan Foreign Minister Ahmed Latif Filali, who was sent to Moscow as a representative of the Arab League's trilateral committee seeking a settlement to the civil war.

Filali appealed to Moscow to use its close relations with Syria and Iraq to bring peace to the region, the Communist Party daily said. Gorbachev indicated he was willing to do so.

"Gorbachev told Filali that contacts may be established in the near future with the leaderships of Iraq and Syria in order to discuss, among other issues, Lebanon," Pravda said.

"Gorbachev told his interlocutor about his intention to discuss

this also with President Francois Mitterrand during the coming visit to France," it said. Gorbachev goes to Paris next week.

The Soviet leader said there was now a real possibility of peace in Lebanon. "It is important not to miss a favourable chance," he said.

"The Soviet Union supports the mission of the trilateral commission. It is prepared to engage in regular contacts with them with the view of an early normalisation in Lebanon," Pravda quoted Gorbachev as saying.

The leaders of the trilateral commission, the kings of Morocco and Saudi Arabia and the Algerian president, met in Algiers Tuesday before sending Filali to Moscow.

Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh left for Baghdad Friday "as a special representative of the Soviet leadership," TASS said.

"He will exchange views with Iraqi leaders on issues of mutual



Mikhail Gorbachev

interest," the Soviet news agency said without elaborating.

While in Baghdad Bessmertnykh may be asked to explain the new Soviet rapprochement with Iran, Iraq's enemy in the eight-year Gulf war which ended with a ceasefire last August.

The Soviet Union was Baghdad's biggest arms supplier during the war.

Since the ceasefire the Kremlin has slowly improved its ties with Tehran, culminating in a visit to Moscow earlier this month by Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Underground group warns Cyprus

By Farouk Nassar
The Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A clandestine group warned Cyprus Friday against handing down severe penalties for six Lebanese about to be tried on charges of plotting to assassinate army commander Michel Aoun.

"We believe it is highly unlikely that the Cypriot court trying our strugglers will take a biased attitude and issue severe sentences, but if it does then we shall be compelled to deal with the Republic of Cyprus as an adverse party in the current conflict in Lebanon," said the spokesman for the March 14 Organisation.

The group claimed responsibility June 2 for plotting to shoot down a helicopter carrying Aoun at Larnaca airport in Cyprus.

Identified only as Zafer, the spokesman did not say if extremists were threatened. He said the group sent a letter to the Cypriot government outlining their position.

The director general of the

Interior Ministry, Charalambos Hajipaniyiotou, confirmed that it received a letter from the organisation.

The letter "in effect asked us to let the six Lebanese go," he said.

He said the ministry did not respond to the letter. "Our stand is that this case is now before the courts and we have no intention whatever of interfering with the course of justice. It is entirely up to the court to decide what to do," he said.

Also in Cyprus Friday, the prosecution announced it will ask the court to do away with a preliminary hearing and proceed directly to the trial for the six.

Judges Antonakis Ioannides gave the prosecution until July 7 to reach an agreement over the procedure with the attorney general.

Patrikios Pavlou, the lawyer for the six, said he did not oppose the postponement, but demanded that the prosecution honour its obligation to submit the testimony of the prosecution witnesses in Arabic for his clients.

The spokesman for the March 14 Organisation talked in an interview with the Associated Press at an underground bunker in west Beirut. He wore a black mask and black eyeglasses that completely covered his features.

"We are convinced that Cypriot courts and authorities will uphold justice and deal with the case in their hands as a political Lebanese issue irrespective of its military and security aspects."

"We hope the sentences against our six strugglers will be handed down within this context. We will be very receptive for such reasonable sentences," Zafer said in a Lebanese Arabic accent.

The six were officially charged June 22 with conspiring to assassinate Aoun, who heads the military cabinet in Lebanon's dual government. They were also charged with illegal weapons possession and some with illegally entering in Cyprus.

They were arrested in the southern Cypriot port of Larnaca last month after scuba divers stumbled across two shoulder-

fired SA-7 anti-aircraft missiles hidden underwater near the town's coastal airport.

Cypriot police said the six planned to shoot down Aoun's helicopter as he transited Larnaca en route to Morocco for an Arab summit conference in late May. In their seaside apartment police found five Kalashnikov rifles, 17 loaded magazines, 28 grenades and two rubber dummies.

Aoun, who did not attend the summit, has charged that Syria's secret service recruited the six.

Asked to comment on Aoun's accusation, Zafer said, "It's rather ridiculous to think that a powerful secret service like Syria's would need anyone from outside to execute an operation abroad."

He said that the letter the March 14 Organisation sent to the Cypriot interior minister through the Cypriot consulate in West Beirut explaining that Aoun's assassination plot was not an "act of belligerency against the

Cyprus republic." "We stated that a pressing nationalist mission forced us to use Cypriot territory for a political operation. We haven't received a response to the letter yet, but we think the Cypriot authorities have now a clear vision and realisation that we have not targeted Cyprus' security or interests," Zafer said.

He said his group was made up of a "combination of patriots drawn from several nationalistic political parties in Lebanon" and took up the name March 14 to "emphasise its mission is confined to liquidating Aoun."

On March 14 Aoun's gunners heavily pounded West Beirut. Police had said 39 people were killed that day.

"Our mission is to punish this executioner. We are not to topple the state of Lebanon, which he personifies and which threatens Lebanon with a military dictatorship," Zafer said.

"When this is accomplished we shall disband the organisation."

Cypriot leaders end talks without accord

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders failed to reach accord in their latest reunification talks but agreed to draft a settlement paper and begin negotiations on a pact in September.

"We agreed to meet again in September in Cyprus and have pledged to work towards finishing an outline of a settlement agreement," Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash told reporters Thursday.

He made the comments after a four-hour meeting with George Vassiliou, president of Cyprus, and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who has been mediating. It was their fourth round of talks in 10 months.

The talks were described as a review and not a negotiating session.

Perez de Cuellar said new ideas had "offered a real possibility of bridging the positions of the two sides and made a just and lasting agreement possible. This effort could be brought to an early and successful conclusion."

He invited Vassiliou and Denktash to meet with him again in September "to consider the completed outline and to launch the negotiation of an overall agreement."

Perez de Cuellar said the two leaders pledged their cooperation in completing the outline of a draft agreement before the next

meeting. Denktash appeared to have backed away from his earlier call for direct talks that would supplant U.N. shuttle diplomacy and mediation.

The two sides would prepare a settlement outline and hold direct talks with the aid of Oscar Camilio, the U.N. Cyprus representative, he said.

Both sides said that the continued presence of U.N. troops was important after an agreement was reached.

Since the U.N.-mediated talks began last August, progress has been slight, and it was not possible to meet the tentative June deadline for arriving at an outline agreement.

The Greek Cypriot side says withdrawal of Turkish troops is a crucial element in any final settlement. The Turkish Cypriot side says withdrawal is not possible now, but could take place later.

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The Greek side insists on the rights of any Cypriot to travel throughout the island, to own property and to live anywhere on the island. The Turkish side is reluctant to grant those rights, concerned that the Turkish minority will be overwhelmed by the more affluent Greek Cypriot community.



Yasser Arafat

Laos, PLO urge peace conference

BANGKOK (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has repeated calls for an international conference on seeking peace for the Middle East, said a joint statement released at the end of his visit to Laos.

The statement was issued Thursday after Arafat and five other top PLO officials held talks with Laotian acting President Phoumi Vongvichit, the official Vietnamese Radio said.

The text of the report was obtained Friday in Bangkok.

The statement said: "The two sides voiced support for the convening of an international conference for peace in the Middle East with the participation of the delegation of the State of Palestine."

"The two sides unanimously agreed that the international situation is changing daily in favour of all peace forces and the settlement of regional conflicts through political means," it said.

In the statement, the PLO voiced support for resolution of the conflict in Cambodia, where the government is closely allied with Laos.

On Wednesday, just after arriving in Laos, Arafat made a speech condemning Israel's "barbarous policy of premeditated genocide and terrorism" in the occupied territories.

He said Palestinians want PLO leadership to continue with the 19-month uprising until land is returned to them and self-determination is allowed along with the right to an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Arafat arrived in Vietnam Tuesday after his plane was delayed for 18 hours due to air navigational problems.

EC declaration on Mideast

Following is the full English text of a political statement made by the leaders of the 12-member European Community (EC) after a summit in Madrid June 26-27.

The European Council has examined the situation in the Middle East conflict in the light of recent events and of contacts undertaken over several months by the presidency and the troika with the parties concerned, and it has drawn the following conclusions:

1. The policy of the Twelve on the Middle East conflict is defined in the Venice Declaration of June 13, 1980 and other subsequent declarations. It consists in upholding the right to security of all states in the region, including Israel, that is to say, to live within secure, recognised and guaranteed frontiers, and in upholding justice for all the peoples of the regions, which includes recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination with all that this implies.

The twelve consider that these objectives should be achieved by peaceful means in the framework of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations, as the appropriate forum for the direct negotiations between the parties concerned, with a view to a comprehensive, just, and lasting settlement.

The European Council is also of the view that the PLO should participate in this process. It expresses its support of every effort by the present members of the Security Council of the United Nations to bring the parties closer together, create a climate of confidence between them, and facilitate in this way the convening of the international peace conference.

2. The community and its member states have demonstrated their readiness to participate actively in the search for a negotiated solution to the conflict, and to cooperate fully in the economic and social development of the people of the region.

The European Council expressed its satisfaction regarding the policy of contacts with all the parties undertaken by the presidency and the troika, and has decided to pursue it.

3. The European Council welcomes the support given by the extraordinary summit meeting of the Arab League, held in Casablanca, to the decisions of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers,

involving acceptance of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which resulted in the recognition of Israel's right to exist, as well as the renunciation of terrorism.

It also welcomes the efforts undertaken by the United States in their contacts with the parties directly concerned and particularly the dialogue entered into with the PLO.

Advantage should be taken of these favourable circumstances to engender a spirit of tolerance and peace with a view to entering resolutely on the path of negotiations.

4. The European Council deplores the continuing deterioration of the situation in the occupied territories and the constant increase in the number of dead and wounded and the suffering of the population.

It appeals urgently to the Israeli authorities to put an end to repressive measures, to implement Resolutions 605, 607 and 608 of the Security Council and to respect the provisions of the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Populations in Time of War. They appeal in particular for the reopening of educational facilities in the West Bank.

5. On the basis of the positions of principle of the Twelve, the European Council welcomes the proposal for elections in the occupied territories as a contribution to the peace process, provided that: — The elections are set in the context of a process towards a comprehensive, just, and lasting settlement of this conflict.

— The elections take place in the occupied territories including East Jerusalem, under adequate guarantee of freedom.

— No solution is excluded and the final negotiation takes place on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338 of the Security Council of the United Nations, based on the principle of "land for peace."

6. The European Council launches a solemn appeal to the parties concerned to seize the opportunity to achieve peace. Respect by each of the parties for the legitimate rights of the other should facilitate the normalising of relations between all the countries of the region. The European Council calls upon the Arab countries to establish normal relations of peace and cooperation with Israel and asks that country in turn to recognise the right of the Palestinian people to exercise self-determination.

Lebanon, Egypt announce restoration of relations

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt and Lebanon announced Thursday the resumption of diplomatic ties, severed 10 years ago after Egypt signed a separate peace treaty with Israel.

A joint statement issued simultaneously in Cairo and Beirut said: "Egypt and Lebanon have decided to resume full diplomatic relations starting from today, Thursday."

Tom by a 14-year-old civil war, Lebanon has had two rival governments since parliament failed last September to elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel at the end of his term.

The resumption statement did not mention the country's divided status. But Egyptian officials said both the civilian government headed by Premier Salim Hoss and the military one of army chief

Michel Aoun approved the move. "The two countries are sure that this step will strengthen brotherly relations in different fields for the good and in the interest of their countries and the Arab nation," the statement said.

The move came after Egypt was readmitted to the Arab League during an emergency Arab summit in Morocco last month.

Cairo's relations with both Syria and Libya improved considerably after the summit.

President Hosni Mubarak had separate reconciliation meetings with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on the sidelines of the Casablanca summit. Since then the Libyan-Egyptian border, closed since 1977, has been reopened and air traffic between the two countries was resumed.

DFLP says talks suspended on exchange with Israel

NICOSIA (AP) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Friday said negotiations for handing over the body of Israeli soldier Samir Asaad were suspended in retaliation for Israel expelling eight Palestinians.

The DFLP in a statement telefaxed to the Associated Press in Cyprus from its Damascus headquarters, said that it "deplores the expulsions, yet announces that such acts will not intimidate the people of the intifada."

Israel has expelled 55 Palesti-

nians since the intifada started in December 1987. The expulsions have been condemned by the United Nations and the United States.

The Israeli army said the eight taken to South Lebanon Thursday were leaders of the uprising and members of either Fatah or the DFLP, the two largest Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) factions.

The DFLP statement said Israel by its actions was responsible for stopping talks about Asaad, but it gave no details about the negotiations.

Arbitrators make Iran oil expropriation case award

THE HAGUE (AP) — The Iran-United States claims tribunal has awarded approximately \$110 million to the American oil giant Phillips Petroleum for expropriation of its Iranian operations in the aftermath of the 1979 Iranian revolution.

The arbitral award marks the first settlement to be reached in American oil company claims for expropriation, which together from the bulk of the commercial claims at the tribunal.

The Phillips award is the second largest issued by the tribunal since its inception almost eight years ago to settle billions of dollars worth of claims between Iran and the United States arising out of the revolution. A copy of the award, filed Thursday at the tribunal, was obtained Friday by

the Associated Press.

The case stems from the Iranian government's breach of a contract between Phillips Petroleum Company Iran and the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) that had allowed Phillips offshore oil exploration and drilling rights in the Gulf for 15 years. Phillips Petroleum Co. Iran is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Delaware-based Phillips Petroleum Co.

NIOC is the Iranian government-owned company which oversees development and exploitation of that nation's oil resources.

The ruling, awarding \$55 million in damages plus 10 per cent interest per year dating from the September 1979 date of expropriation, was based on the poten-

tial resale value of the Phillips contract holdings in Iran.

The tribunal dismissed counterclaims from Iran totalling \$1.22 billion. In its counterclaims, Iran accused Phillips Petroleum Co. Iran or its parent company of breach of contract and reneging on payments for oil to both NIOC and an Iranian operating company jointly established by NIOC and Phillips.

Still to be arbitrated are expropriation claims by the American Oil Companies Sun, ARCO, Mobil, Exxon and Amoco, which together total about \$2.5 billion.

The size of the Phillips award means that Iran must now use its own scant hard currency reserves to pay arbitration awards by the tribunal. In setting up the tribunal in 1981, the Algiers

accords specified that awards would be made from a \$1 billion fund in a special settlement bank created by the Dutch central bank. The accords specified that the settlement account would have to be maintained at or above the \$500 million level by Iran.

Iran has used the interest on the payment fund to replenish it, but the remaining interest will not be enough to bring the fund back up to \$500 million after this award is paid, according to the tribunal source, who spoke in exchange for anonymity.

The tribunal's three arbitration chambers, each composed of one Iranian, one American and one third-national arbitrator, have so far issued awards totalling approximately \$1 billion to American claimants, and about half that to

Iranian claimants.

The Algiers accords which set up the tribunal also resulted in freedom for the 52 American hostages held captive 444 days by Iranian militants in the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

The tribunal is the only official venue for government-to-government contacts between Iran and the United States, which broke off relations after the embassy seizure in September 1981.

The largest claim before the tribunal is the foreign military sales claim for military material ordered by Iran from the United States, but never delivered after the fall of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and the subsequent diplomatic break. That government-to-government claim by Iran amounts to approximately \$11 billion.

A new shipment has recently arrived

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15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
15:50	Sid Kicks
16:00	Educational programme
16:05	News summary
16:10	Message from Iraq
16:15	A play by Shakespeare
16:20	Local programme
16:25	Programme review
16:30	News in Arabic
16:35	Arabic series
16:40	Programme review
16:45	Consumer's Guide
16:50	Local programme
16:55	News in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
16:55	Coutless
17:00	News in French
17:05	Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
17:10	News in Hebrew
17:15	Natural Phenomena
17:20	News in Arabic
17:25	Joint Account
17:30	Alfred Hitchcock presents
17:35	Saturday Variety Show
17:40	News in English
17:45	Feature film: "The Deadly Trap"
PRAYER TIMES	
03:54	Fajr
05:29	Sunrise/Duha
12:39	Dhuhr

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./max. temp.

Amman 17 / 30

Aqaba 20 / 37

Deserts 16 / 35

Jordan Valley 22 / 36

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 34 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Adnan Zaghloul 741391

Dr. Mohammad Al Awad 625778

Dr. Fakher Al Balbasi 820691

Dr. Hani Haddadin 777551

Firas pharmacy 661912

Ferdous pharmacy 778336

Al Asema pharmacy 637055

Naroukh pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shmiesani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Amjad 'Obaidat (—)

Al Sharra' pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Yousef Awad 994676

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896300

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 605000

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6

Abdali Maternity, J. Amn. 644412/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Mallhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmiesani 664171/4

Shmiesani Hospital 660131

University Hospital 845845

Al-Musharraf Hospital 687279

The Islamic, Abdali 661773/7

Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 777101/3

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 777111/26

Army, Marka 891611/15

Queen Abla Hospital 6024050

Amal Hospital 674135

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

National Hospital (09)991071

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272725

Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

10:00 Damascus (RJ)

10:00 Aqaba (RJ)

10:20 New Delhi (RJ)

10:30 Cairo (RJ)

10:30 Dhahran (RJ)

10:40 Kuwait (RJ)

10:50 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)

10:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)

13:00 Jeddah (add.) (RJ)

16:45 New York, Montreal (RJ)

17:00 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)

SSC plans to ensure unemployment security

AMMAN (Petra) — The Social Security Corporation (SSC) is willing to start procedures to ensure security against unemployment and sickness in Jordan if workers and employers are willing to cover the cost of this kind of security, SSC Director General Mahdi Al Farhan said in a lecture delivered at the Civil Defence Department (CDD).

He said such a programme requires a consensus at the national level and commitment on the part of the workers and the employers to shoulder the responsibility of providing assistance to the unemployed and the sick.

"Ensuring support for the unemployed and the sick is part of the SSC's overall programme which it hopes to carry out in full," Farhan noted.

Farhan noted that 525,000 citizens are now registered as beneficiaries of the SSC law, and they are bound to benefit from the corporation's compensation, medication and social services programmes.

"The SSC pays nearly JD 12.5 million in annual salaries to 6,500 citizens who are beneficiaries en-

titled to receive salaries because they have paid their dues to the SSC over the past 10 years," Farhan noted.

In addition to monthly salaries, he said, the SSC provides medical treatment to workers injured in occupational incidents.

The SSC has paid JD 5 million to cover charges for 46,000 incidents, over the past 10 years, Farhan noted.

In addition, the SSC has been paying lump-sum compensation to beneficiaries, altogether benefitting 97,500 since 1980, Farhan added.

He said the SSC has so far paid a total of JD 48 million for all forms of securities and insurance since its establishment.

Farhan pointed out that the SSC's investments in various economic projects now stand at JD 260 million.

He said investments are being made to ensure further income for the SSC, "which pays salaries at the rate of JD 1.5 million a month to beneficiaries whose numbers grow year after year and whose occupational injuries require additional funds."



Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi Thursday receives the ACC Secretary General Dr. Hilmi Nammar in Amman (Petra photo).

Jordan, ACC secretariat to sign headquarters agreement today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government and the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) general secretariat will sign an agreement on locating the ACC's secretariat's headquarters in Amman, according to an announcement here Thursday.

The announcement followed talks between the ACC Secretary General Dr. Hilmi Nammar and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi, who expressed the Jordanian gov-

ernment's readiness to provide all facilities to the ACC secretariat to commence its operations.

Heads of state of Iraq, Egypt, North Yemen and Jordan, who launched the ACC, agreed on the Amman venue as the secretariat's headquarters during their meeting in Alexandria in early June.

Nammar, who arrived here Wednesday for talks with the government, said that he will also meet with economists, university

professors and researchers, to sound out their views on appropriate approach for achieving economic integration among the four ACC member states.

Also on Thursday, Nammar had a meeting here with Mr. Hassan Ibrahim, Secretary General of the Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said they reviewed future cooperation between the two organisations.

Cabinet approves sending Jordanians on U.N.-sponsored voluntary services

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved an agreement with the United Nations Voluntary Programme which entails sending Jordanians to work in other countries.

According to a cabinet statement at least 50 skilled Jordanians and university graduates will be involved in U.N.-sponsored voluntary services abroad.

According to the statement Jordanians will be employed in agricultural, health, social services, transport and educational field and will be processed for this work through the Civil Service Commission.

The council authorised Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz to sign the agreement with the United Nations Development Programme on behalf of the Jordanian government.

The council approved the outcome of initial talks with West Germany on technical and capital assistance to Jordan and formed a Jordanian delegation led by the minister of planning to take part in meetings in Bonn in the coming month to finalise the agreement on the projected assistance.

According to the cabinet statement, the Bonn meeting will define the volume of assistance, the means through which it will be given and the projects that will receive the assistance.

The cabinet formed a Jordanian delegation to the Arab Ministers of Transport Council meeting to be held on July 27. The council's coming meeting, which will be held in Tunis, will be attended by Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Al Khammash.

The council will discuss the implementation of previous resolutions and pan-Arab cooperation in transport-related fields. The Council's executive board groups the ministers of transport in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Iraq and Tunisia.

The cabinet set up a committee led by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab to meet in Damascus on July 3, to prepare for the coming joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meeting.

The cabinet formed a delegation to attend a meeting in Cairo on July 2 to discuss cooperation in civil aviation among the four member countries of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC). The delegation will be led by the director general of the Civil Aviation Authority.

Jordan, according to the cabinet, will take part in the Cairo International Fair which will open in March 1990.

Jordan to mark World Cooperatives Day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Friday issued a statement on the eve of the World Cooperatives Day Saturday, in which it outlined the organisation's activities in the Kingdom.

It said that 270 million world cooperatives will observe the event Saturday which symbolises the cooperative movement's aims and objectives in promoting economic, social and agricultural development throughout the world.

The JCO statement said that the cooperative movement started in Jordan in 1952, and had grown and spread in all directions. The movement's activities were boosted with the creation of the JCO in 1968 which organised the work of cooperative societies whose number now stands at 426, the statement noted.

The JCO provides loans to

cooperative organisations working in the field of agriculture, and supplies fertilisers, pesticides, and farm equipment to farmers at minimum cost, and also distributes animal feed and assistance to stock breeders in times of drought, the statement pointed out.

It said that since its establishment the JCO has distributed 143,000 tonnes of barley and 119,000 tonnes of bran to local farmers at government subsidised prices to help them deal with the adverse effects of drought.

In the recent years, the JCO statement noted, cooperative organisations have been directing their activities and programmes towards the rural and badia regions of Jordan where they have launched development programmes benefiting farmers and stock

breeders. The JCO is currently implementing a project for the development of semi-arid regions, where cereals and fodder are being grown, and providing machinery and farm equipment to implement these projects in order to help farmers to increase their output, the statement noted.

The statement pointed to two recent projects it launched in Bani Hamideh and Sahie districts where pasture lands are being created, and referred to three other similar projects carried out earlier in Ma'an, Karak and Ma'in.

It said that close cooperation is being maintained with the Ministry of Agriculture, which helps to produce improved seeds and to provide technical assistance and extension services.



CDD, PSD hold mock fire fighting operation

AMMAN (Petra) — A mock fire fighting operation was organised Thursday at the Amman Marriott Hotel in which the Civil Defence Department (CDD), the Public Security Department (PSD) and the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) took part. A spokesman for the CDD said that a mock fire on the third and 10th floors of the hotel was reported to the CDD headquarters which rushed fire and to evacuate the hotel

guests from their rooms. According to the spokesman, Colonel Deeb Al Maani, the whole operation lasted 15 minutes during which full cooperation between the three participating institutions was maintained with full assistance from the hotel staff and administration. The fire-fighting programme included precautionary measures to prevent the fire from reaching nearby areas or spreading to other hotel floors. Maani described the training as very successful.

Ministry begins plan to cut number of foreign domestic servants

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Labour Ministry is embarking on a plan that would help the country to gradually cut down the number of foreign domestic servants and save a considerable amount of foreign exchange, according to a statement by Labour Minister Jamal Bdour published in Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper.

The minister was quoted as saying that the plan which is being executed in cooperation with the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) entails providing free training courses to male and female Jordanians to work in health, and social services; and take up domestic jobs.

This step is being taken to help the country overcome the present difficult economic conditions, to save foreign currency, which is being spent on foreign labour, and to find employment for Jordanians, the minister noted.

Participants in the VTC courses will acquire training in ways of caring for the sick and the old at their homes, in health services and doing domestic work, thus preparing them to take up jobs which are now occu-

pled by non-Jordanians, the minister added.

The minister denied that fees on work permits for non-Jordanian workers will be increased and that further limitations will be placed on the employment of foreign workers.

Non-Jordanian Arab workers now pay JD 100 and non-Arabs JD 300, for their annual work permits, according to Labour Ministry regulations.

Bdour said that the Ministry of Labour will not be lenient with workers violating the regulations and warned employers to abide by the labour law.

Last February the Labour Ministry and the Public Security Department launched a wide-scale campaign to control the local labour market.

The ministry also announced that it issued more than 63,000 work permits to non-Jordanians employed in the Kingdom during 1988, and noted that nearly 41,000 of those permits went to Egyptian nationals. Work permits issued in the past year, registered a drop by nearly 17,000 over those issued in 1987, according to Ministry of Labour officials.

The Ministry of Labour will embark on an intensive plan of action designed to provide job opportunities for those seeking work, as truck drivers as well as hotel and bakery workers. Bdour said Tuesday.

Bdour added that the ministry has given priority in its plan, which will be implemented in July, to qualify those willing to work in jobs, occupied by non-Jordanians, including truck-drivers, hotel and bakery workers.

Once drivers are trained to drive trucks, a total of 2,511 job opportunities will be provided to Jordanian drivers holding driving licences of the sixth category — truck and trailer drivers.

3 centres to organise bridge travel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three centres are to open in Jordan Sunday to organise travel across the River Jordan bridges to the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, according to an announcement by the Public Security Department (PSD).

The department said that one of the centres will be located at the "Arwa" school, Jabal Amman in Amman, the second at the police station in the Zarqa refugee camp, and the third will be at the police station in Irbid Governorate.

All travellers to the occupied territories will have to acquire a special permit from any of these centres at least one day before the trip so as to avoid congestion at the bridge terminals, the statement noted.

On Wednesday, the PSD issued a statement advising

citizens wishing to travel to the West Bank across the King Hussein and Prince Mohammad Bridges to refrain from doing so unless their permits and other documents had been sent to the bridge terminals in advance, or if their permits were about to expire.

The statement said that the advice was being given in view of the unexplained and sudden change of procedures on the part of the Israeli authorities which resorted to reducing the number of travellers across the bridges.

Travellers normally visit the West Bank and the Gaza Strip during the summer holidays and many of them come from the Gulf states where they are employed.

The statement said that 2,500 travellers are allowed to cross the King Hussein bridge on a daily

basis, but the Israelis have resorted to reducing this number gradually starting from June 15 without any given reasons.

This action, the statement noted has created confusion at the terminals in view of the congestion of travellers at the bridges.

According to a report by Reuters news agency, the Jordanian government will submit the matter to the Joint Armistice Committee set up after the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.

A statement by the PSD issued Thursday urged those wishing to travel Monday to submit their documents on Sunday July 2 at any one of the three centres.

It said those with permits about to expire should not wait their turn at the three centres but must directly submit their permits and other documents at the police stations near the terminals.



Participants in the Jordanian-Yemen meetings in Amman Thursday discuss an executive programme on previous agreements (Petra photo)

Jordanian, Syrian industrial teams to discuss joint ventures

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing industrial businesses in Jordan will go to Damascus in the first week of July to discuss with their Syrian colleagues prospects for joint industrial ventures.

According to an official statement here, the decision was taken in implementation of resolutions reached by the ministers of industry and trade of Syria and Jordan during the Syrian minister's recent visit to Jordan.

The announcement coincided with the conclusion of a Jordanian-Syrian meeting in Amman to pave the way for a greater measure of cultural cooperation.

The meetings ended with the signing of an executive programme for the implementation of a previous bilateral agreement which provides for cooperation in university scholarships, higher education, culture and artistic affairs, and exchange of television programmes.

The three-year programme which was signed by Ministry of Education's Secretary General Munther Al Masri and his Syrian counterpart Sharafuddin Mohammad, provides for universities of each country to grant scholarships to students from the other country and to launch close cooperation in educational and cultural fields.

Under the programme, the Ministries of Higher Education of Jordan and Syria will exchange staff to teach in colleges and universities of the two countries. They will cooperate in conducting scientific research programmes and will exchange publications and documents on scientific work.

The two sides will provide facilities for holding conference, seminars and lectures on topics of

common interest. They will pave the way for educationalists from both countries to exchange visits and hold meetings to unify school curricula and cooperate on matters of teachers training courses and school health programmes.

The programme encourages concerned authorities in the two countries to set up joint summer

camp for youths and scouts, conduct sports programmes and exchange information on extra-curricular activity.

Other aspects of the joint programme deal with cooperation in archaeology, manuscripts, bibliography, documentation, archaeological excavations and television and radio programmes.

Arab children visit Dead Sea, Karameh

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A total of fifty nine students representing twelve Arab countries in addition to the host country, Jordan, are participating in the Ninth Arab Children's Congress which is held under the slogan of "Towards a Better Education for the Arab Children."

Within the framework of the congress, a children's book exhibition will be held Sunday at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman.

The five-day exhibition will include a collection of books, magazines, and other publications from all parts of the Arab World. A children's drawing exhibition entitled "Jordan in the Eyes of Arab Children" will also be held to demonstrate the draw-

ing capabilities of the guest Arab children.

The Arab children Thursday visited the Dead Sea and the site of the Battle of Karameh. They listened to a briefing on the heroism and the great sacrifices of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

They also visited the monument of the unknown soldier and laid wreaths.

Later Thursday, they visited the King Hussein Bridge and were briefed on the suffering of the people in the occupied territories and the facilities the Jordanian authorities present to the people crossing the bridge.

This was followed by visits to the Salt Handicraft Training Centre and Zay National Park.

49 die in 1,337 road accidents in April

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 49 citizens died and 725 others were injured in 1,337 road accidents which occurred in Jordan last April, according to a statistical bulletin by the Traffic Department here.

It said that 721 accidents, causing 11 deaths and 332 injuries, occurred in the Amman region alone, while the others were reported to have occurred in Irbid, Zarqa, Karak, Ma'an, Mafrqa,

Badia, Balqa, Aqaba and Tafleh districts.

The bulletin indicated that the number of accidents last April were less in comparison with those of April 1988, but that the injuries were more serious.

The bulletin also noted that traffic police registered 52,131 traffic violations last April of which over 88 per cent were in the capital.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- * An art exhibition entitled "Songs of the Earth" by Mohammad Nasrallah at the French Cultural Centre.

السلامة العامة

Jordan Times

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Where are the true brothers?

IN a continuous dedicated campaign by His Majesty King Hussein to meet with Jordanians of all walks of life, and in a determined and sincere effort to put current Jordanian issues in proper perspective, the King's latest encounter with the members of Jordan's Senate and representatives of the press Thursday stands out as the most revealing thus far on how Jordan came to find itself in the current economic and financial quagmire. For the clearest words ever, His Majesty attributed the present economic and financial difficulties of Jordan to hostile designs painstakingly conspiring to coerce the Kingdom to depart from its traditional nationalist course and succumb to surrender.

It was obvious that King Hussein was referring to coordinated American-Israeli efforts during the reign of former President Ronald Reagan to undermine Jordan's security and stability in a vain attempt to make Jordan accept compromises and peace plans that ran counter to Jordan's honourable course. Accordingly, King Hussein went on to say, the Arab World should never allow Jordan to be penalised for honouring its Arab ties and duties by refraining from coming to its rescue financially and economically in these trying times. To be sure, all Arabs, especially Jordanians, are duty bound to extend a helping hand in order to facilitate the country's determined efforts to overcome its current economic and financial woes. Any such official and private Arab assistance would be rightfully viewed as the ultimate national act that any true Arab nationalist whether, state or individual, can make in these critical times facing the Arab World.

If such a clear message from King Hussein to the Arab World is not clear enough one does not know what will be. What other words His Majesty King Hussein must use to make it loud and clear to Arabs everywhere that what Jordan is facing is a sinister plan by foreign forces to make the country kneel and surrender to the whims of Israel and the forces that stand behind it? The fundamental issue therefore goes beyond mere financial and economic rearrangements that the country has to endure in order to overcome customary readjustments which countries, big and small, have to go through periodically. The primary issue and the ultimate danger confronting Jordan are obviously bigger and deeper than all that. That is why all Jordanians and all Arabs must stand up tall and big against the wild and bankrupt conspiracies against Jordan, the frontline Arab state against Zionist dreams and designs. If the Arab World continues to be blind in the face of these harsh realities and accept that Jordan, God forbid, battle on its own, then they would have committed the biggest crime ever against the Arab homeland, Arab nationalism and Arab honour.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies on Friday commented on King Hussein's statement to the members of the Upper House of Parliament in which he reiterated Jordan's resolve not to kneel before the pressures but to pursue its pan-Arab policies and uphold its principles. Al Ra'i daily referred to the King's disclosure that Jordan's current economic difficulties stem largely from hostile campaigns launched on the country and pressures designed to destabilise the Arab order. The paper echoed the King's words that nothing can force Jordan to deviate from its national policies regardless of the challenges and the present difficulties and hardships. What the enemies of the Arab Nation wish to achieve, the paper noted, is a total disarray in Arab ranks and a weak Jordan, succumbing to their desires, but the Jordanian people will offer sacrifice and maintain their perseverance so that their country can continue the march towards achieving its objectives. As long as the Jordanian family is united, the paper added, there can be no chance for hostile campaigns to achieve any success.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily backs a call by an Arab League three-member committee on Lebanese parliamentarians to meet at a venue outside their country to examine means of ending the civil war. Mahmoud Rimawi says in his article that the three Arab leaders who form this committee have realised that only through the help of the Lebanese deputies can a solution be found. He notes that both the Arab League and the committee stipulated an end to shelling of residential areas and a stop to all forms of bloodshed before such a meeting can convene. The committee's call on the Lebanese to deal with the situation as soon as possible implied that this could be the last chance for a settlement before other forces can be involved and before the Lebanese crisis can be internationalised, the writer notes. Rimawi says that the Arabs are bound to help find a solution for the crisis and put an end to the Lebanese people's ordeal; but in order to do that an active participation on the part of the deputies is urgently required.

Al Dustour daily commented on King Hussein's review of the situation in Jordan and the Middle East in general in a meeting with the Upper House of Parliament at the Royal Court on Thursday. The paper described the King's statement as very open and frank, revealing new elements, and referring to economic pressures being exerted on the Kingdom. The paper echoed the King's words that Jordanians are self-confident of their continued march and their ability to pursue the struggle in the face of challenges. It said that Jordan is now more determined than ever to deal with the economic difficulties and would no doubt overcome the hardships as it did in the past.

New generation of popular committees leads intifada

By Wendy Kristiansen Levitt

SINCE the Palestinian declaration of statehood in November 1988 and the start of the PLO-U.S. dialogue, attention inside the occupied territories have focussed on the diplomatic and political front. But already, by the summer of 1988, Palestinians in the occupied territories had begun to concentrate their energies on pushing for the PNC declaration in Algiers. As a consequence, the attempt to build up alternative forms of self-government has taken second place to the diplomatic endeavour.

Nonetheless, it was always unrealistic to suppose that some of the more ambitious calls for a fully fledged "national" infrastructure could have been met, even with the help of the wide-scale resignations from the Israeli Civil Administration which took place last year. The creation of a health service or police force would have required a qualitative leap beyond the scope of the intifada, the resignation of some 700 to 750 Palestinian policemen notwithstanding.

On the other hand, more localised forms of organisation, run

along either local or political lines, have been remarkably effective. The medical, agricultural and women's committees belonging to different organisations within the PLO have greatly expanded their activities during the uprising. The medical committees, for example, have been extremely successful in reaching rural areas not previously served with medical care, using mobile clinics and volunteer doctors, usually on a weekly basis. In the camps they have supplemented the work of UNRWA, which has been severely stretched by the huge numbers of casualties throughout the intifada.

"Policing" the uprising

The task of "policing" the uprising has been taken over by the "striking forces," which have become well organised and not a little feared by last December. Their main function is to ensure the compliance of the population with the appeals made by the Unified Command of the uprising in its numbered communiques. This involves organising demonstrations, enforcing the observance of strike days, shop opening

hours and calls for resignations from the Civil Administration, and warning — and eventually punishing — collaborators.

In addition, "people's courts" have been set up in some parts of the West Bank, notably in Nablus. "Conciliation committees" (lijan al-istishar) administer affairs relating to personal status, such as marriages, disputes and debts. The "courts" also administer justice on issues such as theft, drug dealing and prostitution.

The one area in which a truly "national" organisation might have been feasible (and may yet prove to be) was that of education. The closure of West Bank schools for 13 of the 16 months of the uprising has provided an opportunity for setting up an educational body responsible for all age groups (in contrast to the existing, somewhat inactive Council for Higher Education). It could have overseen the replacement of the outmoded curriculum with a brand new one, relevant to the needs of the 320,000 West Bank children of school age growing up under the intifada. The equally fossilised curriculum in the Gaza Strip is in similar need of replacement. Some eight

thousand teachers were at hand, unemployed, and for most of that time, unpaid.

Until May 1988, popular committees (lijan al-sha'biya) did their best to fill the gap, conducting classes in mosques and churches in which, among other subjects, they taught Palestinian history. But the banning of the popular committees, with the attendant risk of up to ten years' imprisonment and a fine of several thousand pounds, put an end to this activity. Attempts to use "self-study" materials were then tried, but also ran into trouble with the authorities. Now the teaching of children has been reduced to small groups, usually in private homes, with obvious inbuilt limitations. For younger children efforts have been largely confined to the teaching of Arabic and arithmetic.

The banning of the committees

The banning of the lijan al-sha'biya led, not surprisingly, to a marked decline in all their activities from the summer of 1988 onwards. The committees suffered from the arrests of many of their members. An aura of

necessary caution prevailed and the committees have since been forced to work in secrecy. At the same time, needs have changed. At the start of the uprising popular committees were mobilised in response to the urgent requirements of local communities for the organisation of food supplies, first aid, agriculture, guard duties, and other immediate needs. Over the months it became clear that Palestinians would not be forced to starve, sufferings notwithstanding. Meanwhile, each family, in even the poorest of refugee camps, has acquired its own substantial supply of staple foods, such as flour, rice and sugar. Food production is now a family affair, in addition to any communal plots run by gardening committees. The humblest of homes grows vegetables on whatever bit of land is available. Chickens, pigeons or rabbits are reared by individual families, or communally by small groups of neighbours.

Adjusting to the economic hardships of the intifada and its call for maximum self-sufficiency has become a way of life to which Palestinians are now thoroughly

accustomed. As a consequence, as the popular committees have declined, families have been able to take over their own organisation, individually and with neighbours.

From summer 1988, when the committees were forced underground, there was a need for coordination of their activities if the lijan were not to disappear altogether. With the main efforts directed to the political and diplomatic level, that coordination was absent until early 1989. Now, a second generation of popular committee is in the making. It is more factionalised than its predecessor, and more adequately funded, it is working in far greater secrecy, and it has long-term planning as its aim. The popular committee, originally the preserve of willing "amateurs," is taking a new turn.

Wendy Kristiansen Levitt's book *Intifada — the Palestinians' popular uprising* will be published by Kegan Paul International in the autumn. This article is reprinted from the London-based *Middle East International*.

World's first women's party says it's not being taken seriously

By Edith M. Lederer
The Associated Press

REYKJAVIK, Iceland — Iceland's women-only party complains it's being treated like "little flowers" with little ideas. But a rival woman lawmaker says the feminists are not taking politics seriously and are degrading parliament.

Two years ago, the Women's List, the world's first all-female party, captured a surprising six seats in the 63-member Althing, or parliament. For a while, it looked like a potential powerbroker.

But today, Women's List lawmaker Thorhildur Thorgeirsdottir says Iceland's male-dominated society — and especially its media — have formed "a very great coalition to silence us."

Opponents, male and female, say the Women's List won't be taken seriously unless it plays politics Icelandic-style — which the group refuses to do, saying it means surrender to a system designed and run by men.

The Kvinnulist, Icelandic for Women's List, is radical, anti-nuclear and opposes Iceland's membership in NATO.

This puts it outside the centrist political mainstream. It has no hierarchy or leadership, operates by consensus, rotates members in and out of parliament and has an eight-year limit on being a lawmaker.

The Women's List sees these policies as strengths. Political rivals and Western diplomats say they are weaknesses.

"Hierarchy is very much a male thing. Women try to run their

homes without a hierarchy, and we see this country as one large family," said Sigridur Duna Krr Mundsdottir, a Kvinnulist founder who served four years in parliament.

"We are very concerned about not having power accumulate in a few hands," she said.

Ms. Thorgeirsdottir added: "We made it clear in the election that when you vote for our list, you vote for ideas, not for people. But, of course, that goes against all the rules. It's a threat to the system."

Opponents counter that seasoned, recognised leaders are needed if the Women's List wants to share power in a coalition, the traditional style of government in this North Atlantic island nation of 250,000 people.

Gudrun Helgadóttir, the first

woman president of the Althing, the world's oldest parliament, said rotating members was absurd.

"Parliament is not meant to be some sort of schooling system," she complained. "I think it degrades the parliament."

Mrs. Helgadóttir, a member of the left-wing People's Alliance which belongs to the current three-party centre-left coalition, said the need for consensus keeps the Women's List out of government.

"Such a movement can never be homogeneous enough to take political stands," she said.

But Ms. Kristmundsdottir said the Women's List has stayed out of coalitions because other parties would not meet its minimum demands.

"I would be happy if we have

15-16 per cent of the vote in the next election, which would give us nine or 10 MPs and make us seriously consider entering a coalition group," she said.

Iceland gave women the vote before other European countries, and since 1980 it has had a woman president, Vigdis Finnbogadóttir.

The women's list was founded in 1981 by a dozen women who saw the salary gap between men and women widening despite a 1976 equal rights law.

It won three Althing seats in the election of 1985, a year in which Icelandic women celebrated the United Nations decade of the woman with a "one-day strike" that paralysed the country.

It won 10.8 per cent of the vote in the 1987 election, doubling its seats. A year later it had 28.4 per

cent in an opinion poll. That fell to 12.8 per cent in a poll last April, but even opponents concede that the Women's List is a fascinating phenomenon that has inspired women elsewhere.

Kristmundsdottir said Denmark has established a women's party which expects to run in the next election.

Women's List lawmakers complain they're viewed as "little flowers." Ms. Thorgeirsdottir, a theatre director and mother of five, said too many powerful men believe the party has "nice little ideas" not worth pursuing.

"This ... is a great danger to the world because it shows that men are not interested in any new ideas," she said. "Obviously, we are going to have to find some way to break small holes in this wall."

Bush prepares for E. European tour

By Barry Schweid
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The pace of reform in Poland and Hungary is picking up even as U.S. President George Bush gets set to visit the two East European countries — with assurance to Moscow he will not try to overhaul their economies or pose a threat to the Soviet Union.

While Bush on Tuesday was advising Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev not to get "up-tight" about his trip to Warsaw and Budapest, U.S. officials said privately the second stage of elections in Poland and a revamping of the Communist Party leadership in Hungary have improved the trend to democracy.

There is uncertainty who will eventually become prime minister of Poland, however, and the reshuffling in Hungary may re-

quire a change in protocol on such delicate issues as who sits next to Bush at dinner. A four-man ruling body has sharply reduced the power of general secretary Karol Grom.

"He'll still see the same Hungarians, but in what order?" said a U.S. official who assessed developments on the condition he would not be identified. "We've asked the Hungarians."

In both countries Bush will meet with prominent leaders of the opposition, and he is bound to dwell on his session with Lech Walesa, the leader of the Polish trade union movement Solidarity. Poland has now had two rounds of elections, and Solidarity has done well. It won 99 of 100 senate seats, and the union has won all of the contested races for the lower house.

A president is to be chosen by

July 18. Bush will be in Warsaw and Gdansk, the Baltic seaport where Solidarity was launched, July 9-11.

There may be a caretaker government for a while, and it's not clear if Wojciech Jaruzelski will wind up wearing the twin hats of president and Communist Party chief.

"There is a lot of nervousness among the Poles because nobody knows how all of this is going to work out," said another U.S. official, who also insisted on anonymity. "But we know the way the trend is running, and we welcome the trend."

In Hungary, he said, the reshuffling at the top of the party "doesn't change things much."

Democratic change is so far advanced it is conceivable a majority of the Hungarian parliament will be non-communist in

the next two to five years, a State Department official told a House foreign affairs subcommittee.

The official, Curtis W. Kamman, deputy assistant secretary for European affairs, said the administration does not believe House legislation to give Hungary a five-year exemption from economic and trade restrictions is needed.

He explained that Hungary has removed practically all restrictions on the ability of its citizens to travel abroad or to emigrate at will, the objective of the restrictions.

Bush will be in Budapest July 11-13, just before he goes to Paris for an annual economic summit meeting with the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan and West Germany.

At a news conference Tuesday, Bush said he will not exhort the

Polish and Hungarian people to take actions that might invite repression.

"I want to see a much more open Europe," he said. "And I think that the importance of the visit is along that line. It's not going to be that we're going to solve the problem of the Hungarian economy or the Polish economy."

Bush took a relaxed view of U.S.-Soviet competition and Gorbachev's own travels to the West. For instance, Bush said, it was "a good thing" that the Soviet leader went to West Germany earlier this month.

"It's a good thing for him to go to Western Europe, and it's a good thing for the president of the United States to go to Eastern Europe," he said. "I want to see us move beyond containment." Bush said he will bring an

economic package to Poland, but he stressed U.S. support for the Polish economy will require further reforms there.

In any event, Bush said in regard to both Poland and Hungary that "being there is the significant thing. It is important that the United States show its interest in these countries that are undergoing change. You don't want to over-exert. You don't want to over-promise. You don't want to rally people to levels of political activity that might cause repression."

At the same time, Bush said the trip is not designed to send a signal to Moscow.

"I would not expect them to be up-tight about it," Bush said. "Mr. Gorbachev goes to Western Europe and is well-received. And I will go to Eastern Europe and I will be well-received."

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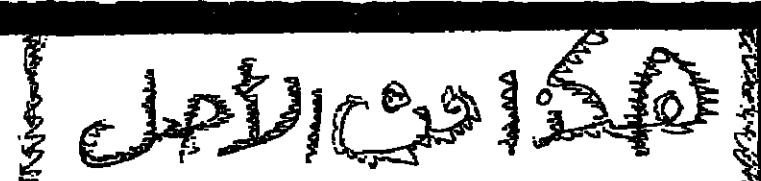
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The Green revolution — will it check the bad habits of European industries?

MORE THAN 300 ecologists crowded into the annual meeting of Italian chemical giant Montedison SpA on Wednesday to demand closure of a controversial plant and a seat on the board.

The ecologists, who have bought about 2,000 Montedison shares, arrived to make a protest unprecedented in Italy. Thirty of them asked to address the meeting.

"If Montedison doesn't close the ACNA (plant), we will. We won't close it with bombs but with the power of reason," said Renato Galliano, a member of the Association for the Rebirth of the Bormida Valley.

The ACNA plant near Savona in northern Italy produces a range of chemicals used for dyestuffs, pigments, pharmaceuticals and agriculture.

Environmental groups say it is polluting the surrounding area and have held demonstrations outside the plant.

The demonstration was the first to be held since the success of the Green parties in European elections and is likely to become a familiar scene at company meetings throughout Europe as the Greens exploit the new-found enthusiasm for their cause.

The protesters likened their protest to actions by environmentalists at a recent shareholders' meeting of U.S. oil giant Exxon Corp after the damage caused by the oil tanker Exxon Valdez on the Alaskan coast.

At the same time in Brussels, the EC unveiled plans for a European Environment Agency to help pressure governments and industry for a "greener" continent.

"The situation as regards the environment is one of danger ... It is urgent that we have data that is continent-wide," the EC environment commissioner, Ripa di Meana, told a news conference.

The EC would like its leaders to approve the idea in principle at their summit in Madrid next week in the latest of a series of moves which has forced "green" considerations to the top of the agenda in company boardrooms.

Since taking office in January, the new commission has increased pressure on industry and

national governments over the environment.

The commission, which has a stronger green tinge than its predecessor, is being spurred on by growing public concern over the environment as well as the community's goal, set out in the Single European Act, of striving for the highest possible environmental standards.

And whereas in the past many environmental initiatives from Brussels were watered down or blocked by EC member states, the drive to create a single market in 1992 means that environmental legislation is increasingly being determined at the European level.

Governments have to reach agreement on common environmental rules, because a proliferation of standards would serve as barriers to trade. In addition, the recently expanded powers of the European Parliament, with its strong Green element, are providing further legislative pressure on environmental issues.

The most far-reaching of recent moves was the decision by EC environment ministers earlier this month to seek tough U.S. emissions standards for small cars from 1992.

This gives industry less than three years to fit three-way catalytic converters on cars with engines of under 1.4 litres.

The standards, expected to cut pollution from small cars by more than 70 per cent, are much stricter than anticipated and reflect strong pressure from the commission and the European Parliament.

The debate will now turn to medium-sized and large cars, with the commission expected to call for U.S.-style, or even tougher, standards in September.

The commission has also been instrumental in seeking cuts on chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs. EC environment ministers in March agreed to eliminate the most dangerous CFCs by 2000 and to slash production and use of these CFCs by 85 per cent as soon as possible. Since then, Ripa di Meana, has called on EC governments to roll back the target date for banning CFCs to 1996.

The new commission has increased pressure on industry and

The commission is also cracking down on member states which fail to enforce existing environmental legislation. In Britain this centres on the quality of drinking water, where the cost of raising standards to EC levels is likely to make the privatised water industry much less attractive to investors. Ripa di Meana also favours a tax on energy use in the EC aimed at helping Third World countries combat deforestation to tropical rain forests.

Proposals are also expected soon on reducing carbon dioxide, which contributes to the greenhouse effect, and on deforestation. Possibilities include tougher speed limits on motorways and debt relief for developing countries which fight deforestation.

The upshot is that Green issues have suddenly become important for big business in Britain and Europe.

Denys Henderson, chairman of ICI, recently described the company as "a pioneer in environmental research". ICI, often under fire for its environmental record, has appointed an executive director responsible for the environment, and is spending £500 million on safety, health and environment in 1988, and £100 million in the search for replacements to the chlorofluorocarbons which damage the ozone layer.

However, Henderson admitted ICI was not beyond reproach and stressed it had to continue to earn satisfactory profits to survive as a leading British-based, international company.

BP, which has carefully cultivated its pro-green image, fell foul of the new enthusiasm for green campaigns when it hit the headlines for an involvement in bulldozing tropical rainforests.

The environmental pressure group, Friends of the Earth, will soon launch a campaign to expose more companies which are involved in destroying rainforests.

Ted Thais, head of the Confederation of British Industry's Environmental Health and Safety Group, points to the potential of new market created by the changing trend, estimating a potential worldwide market of between £100 billion and £150 billion for environmentally-friendly products and technologies.

Many companies, such as Habitat and Laura Ashley, have been awarded the Friends of the Earth Good Wood Seal of Approval for agreeing to cease selling, or specifying tropical hardwoods unless they are obtained from a sustainable source.

Others, like Sainsbury's Homebase, have begun labelling for timber products, providing information on the source of the material. The combined turnover of the U.K. water authorities and the private sector waste disposal business is £8 billion alone, Thais said.

British Telecom is one of the first to instigate a company-wide audit of the effect of its operations on the environment and the cost of improving its "friendly" image.

All of the new vehicles in its 58,000-strong fleet will now run on lead-free petrol and it is studying the cost and feasibility of converting the existing vehicles. P & O has made much of its slogan "We love unleaded petrol" and its vehicles have been converted to run on "green gas". The group has a director responsible for safety and environmental matters though his main duties appear to revolve around safety.

Last month, BOC unveiled a new oxygen plant to restore the environmental balance of the Thames after heavy rainfall which pollutes and de-oxygenates the water.

The "Thames Bubbler" is mounted on a 600-ton Thames Water Authority vessel and can separate 30 tonnes of oxygen a day from the air using a sieve process. The oxygen — 93 per cent pure — is then injected at high velocity into the water to help it dissolve.

But the changes facing industry go far beyond this. Environmental groups suggest that a whole range of basic household products, like light bulbs, fridges, washing machines, and television sets could easily be replaced by more energy efficient models. Fitting the latest energy efficient light bulbs would cut by half

the 7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide, 10,000 tonnes of sulphur dioxide, 18,000 tonnes of nitrous oxide and 830 cubic metres of radioactive waste produced by domestic lighting.

The costs involved in the "greening" of Britain's electricity industry are playing a crucial part in calculating the price tag for next year's flotation.

Best estimates suggest generating companies must spend up to £1,500 million at current prices to equip power stations with the latest technology plant to reduce the sulphur emissions which cause acid rain.

But City analysts said the eventual "Green Power Bill" could escalate if Britain had to tighten emission standards in line with EC draft regulations under discussion in Brussels.

A £350 million project to kit up Britain's biggest power station at Drax has already begun. The technology is designed to cut pollution by as much as 90 per cent.

After the sell-off, nuclear fuel together with a tiny contribution from renewable sources such as wave and wind power will contribute up to 20 per cent of energy needs.

British companies are also being forced for the first time to consider seriously the radical policies of the Green Party, which advocates an economic and industrial strategy well to the left of the Labour Party's mainstream thinking.

The Green's radical agenda includes import controls, antagonism towards the Common Market, conservation and pollution taxes, major changes in the holding of land, a guaranteed basic income for everyone, an attempt to limit the power of multinational corporations and a movement away from the idea that men and women should be committed to the idea of working a 40-hour week between the ages of 15 and 60.

John Button, who edited the Green party manifesto said: "The current boom in consumption cannot go on. People are addicted to consumption but they want to be helped off it."

He said recent trends suggested



Health hazard ... The greening of Europe is likely to spell the end of factories which pollute

that industry was moving away from "giganticism" towards smaller units and a more human working pattern.

No figure has been put on the cost of "greening" industry, although estimates have suggested that it will run into hundreds of billions of pounds.

A more telling criticism is that the introduction of a green economic strategy would cause a massive surge in inflation, with firms passing on the cost of becoming environment-friendly to

consumers. The cost of fitting catalytic converters to the 20 million cars on Britain's roads would be £8 billion alone.

Button said that in the long run the green approach was anti-inflationary, as it turned it back on current thinking which involved growing demand and shrinking resources.

By Andrew Cornelius, Larry Elliott, Daniel John, and Julie Wolf, Brussels

The Centre for Economic and Environmental Development said in the short term a rise in prices would inevitably follow a green approach to industry, and is sceptical about opinion polls showing that a majority of people would be prepared to pay more for "green" goods — The Guardian.

Third World nations losing AIDS war

By Michael Specter
The Washington Post

MONTREAL — For many health officials from the developing world, the medical progress reported at the fifth international AIDS conference here last week seemed like a bizarre fantasy.

They sat through dozens of accounts by American and European researchers of how sophisticated technology, fancy diagnostic tests and the latest drugs were giving greater hope to people infected with HIV, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus that causes the disease.

But while U.S. health officials were urging infected Americans to seek testing and, in many cases, costly treatment, their counterparts in Africa have been struggling to find the funds for the most basic care.

"Africa has so many deadly problems, and we are unable to treat even the simplest among them," said Bila Kapita, director of AIDS activities at Mama Yemo Hospital in Kinshasa, Zaire, which is among the hardest-hit areas of HIV infection in the world. "To listen to talk of special drugs and many tests is sometimes hard for me. We are still trying to obtain clean needles for patients and gloves for our doctors."

The disparity between health care in the industrialised and developing worlds has always been dramatic. But AIDS has made that gap more painful and evident than ever before. Where experts in the U.S. debate whether to implement broader testing programmes and more routine reporting of infection, officials from the Third World are desperately seeking funds for tests that will protect their hospital blood supplies.

Reports presented here this week showed that it can cost up to \$50 just to eliminate one unit

of infected blood in most African countries. Yet places like Zaire and Uganda have less than \$1 to spend each year per person for all their health needs. In the United States, per-capita health-care spending is almost \$600.

What's more, in most of the developing world, AIDS coexists with parasitic and infectious diseases like malaria that are rarely confronted by even the sickest and poorest Americans. High rates of genital ulcer disease, the dramatic increase in tuberculosis rates and the fact that few men have been circumcised in the "Third World appear to markedly increase the ease of HIV transmission in these countries.

Funds can't keep pace

Health-care funds, strapped as they are in the United States to cope with the burden of AIDS, cannot begin to keep pace elsewhere.

In Zaire, the cost of hospitalising HIV-infected infants is at least eight times that for those who are not infected, according to a report delivered here last week. Yet the amount the government can spend on health care for these babies averages out to slightly less than \$1 per year.

In most developing countries, hospital costs for AIDS infants are many times that, and antibiotics, vitamins and other treatments add greatly to the cost of caring for those infected with HIV — even without using AZT or any of the drugs now emerging in the United States as standard therapy.

By contrast, even the most financially burdened of inner-city American hospitals routinely spend thousands of dollars to keep HIV-infected infants alive in neonatal units, and thousands more are spent on drug treatments and diagnostic tests. The average annual cost in the United

States of caring for an AIDS patient currently runs into the tens of thousands.

"This is a massive economic problem, and unfortunately there is only one simple solution," said James Deane, press officer for the Panos Institute, an international development organisation that has increasingly focused on AIDS during the past seven years. "The answer is money. You will not be able to treat AIDS in Africa, Latin America or Asia until you have economic development. And that is not happening fast enough."

In most parts of the Third

World, new HIV infections are occurring far too quickly for available funds to cope with them — even in countries with relatively advanced communication networks and economic development.

In Thailand, for example, HIV infection rates among drug users in Bangkok were less than 1 per cent in 1987. By this time last year, the figure had climbed to 20 per cent. Today, it is over 40 per cent, and experts from the World Health Organisation estimate that it is growing at nearly 5 per cent each month.

Faced with such an exploding

epidemic, few developing nations can hope to rely on the medical management becoming more common in the United States that involves expensive combinations of drugs, which are difficult to obtain and often toxic. In Africa, the idea of patients taking AZT, for example, with all its medical complications and its expense of about \$10,000 a year, is inconceivable except for a few rich people.

AIDS has already been responsible for reversing hard-won health gains in even the poorest African nations, and most experts predict the demographic situation

will soon grow worse. In many cities of Central Africa, up to 25 per cent of childbearing women have been found to be infected with HIV, and up to 20 per cent of all hospital admissions in West Africa are now due to AIDS.

The spread of the disease has begun to have a dramatic effect on infant mortality, one of the key indicators of a nation's health.

In the developed world today, deaths of children under age 5 represent only 3 per cent of total mortality.

Between 1950 and 1980, infant-mortality rates had also declined

by 50 per cent in the Third World, and public-health experts assumed that drop would continue for decades. But between 1980 and 1985, infant mortality began to climb again, particularly in Africa, where 40 per cent of all deaths occur in children under 5. This contrasts to the developed world, where the death of children represents only 3 per cent of total mortality.

But for developing countries, it has been impossible to discuss the treatment or prevention of HIV without reference to so many of the illnesses that are already epidemic in the world's poorest

countries. "The mosquito still kills infants at will," said Kenneth Kuanda, president of Zambia, in an address to the delegates here. "So do tuberculosis, diarrhea, starvation and other major widespread afflictions."

"Every one of us ignores AIDS in the house of their neighbour at their own peril," said Kuanda, whose own son died of the disease in 1986. "The defense of every country's population against AIDS should occupy a place of priority in the policy and programmes of the governments of all countries."

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18 July	L/Mahapola V.78	CSC	Far East, India, Karachi, Colombo
20 July	J. Smeraldo V.81	Messina	Italy, France
20 July	Nada S V.205	Wallenius	North Continent, USA
29 July	Carmen V.60	Wallenius	North Continent, USA
2 Aug.	J. Turchese V.	Messina	Italy, France
3 Aug.	L/Mahapola V.79	CSC	Far East, India, Karachi, Colombo
8 Aug.	Bejin V.206	Wallenius	North Continent, USA
14 Aug.	J. Rubino V.	Messina	Italy, France
18 Aug.	L/Mahapola V.80	CSC	Far East, India, Karachi, Colombo

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Red Sea, Arabian Gulf	Roro only
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Zhao stripped of last post

(Continued from page 1)

armed troops cleared the square.

The U.S. House of Representatives, seizing the initiative on U.S. policy towards China from President George Bush, has voted unanimously to impose new sanctions.

By a vote of 418-0, the House Thursday approved a package of sanctions that includes suspending new trade development with China and halting nuclear exports.

The vote revealed wide dissatisfaction with Bush's policy of cautious, limited action in recognition of China's strategic importance to the United States.

It also signalled rejection of the administration policy of having the U.S. government speak with one voice — the president's — on China.

Bush, a former envoy to China, had maintained that policy in the face of the looming prospect that Congress intended to get involved.

1500

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Arab-Indian chamber to be set up

AMMAN (Petra) — A decision was taken to set up an Arab-Indian joint chamber to help promote bilateral cooperation in industrial and commercial fields. Dr. Burhan Dajani, secretary-general of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture said that the subject was discussed during a visit to Jordan by a delegation from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Industry and Trade. Contacts were maintained following the visit and the decision was eventually taken to set up the chamber, Dajani noted. He said that the joint chamber's president will be an Indian and an Arab will be the chamber's secretary-general but a complete statute for the projected chamber will be discussed by the two sides at a meeting to be held in Abu Dhabi in October.

Banks lend Oman \$500 million

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Oman has signed a contract for a \$500 million loan arranged by the Bahrain-based Gulf International Bank (GIB) along with the Chase Investment Bank Ltd., to help finance its three five-year development plan that ends in 1990. The loan is provided through a syndication of 39 Western, Asian and Arab banks, according to a GIB statement. The GIB is owned by Oman and the six other Arab countries in the Gulf region. The medium-term eight-year loan earlier was reported as comprising a \$400 million Euroloan and another \$100 million, with an option for conversion into other currencies. The statement said that the loan grants Oman a four-year grace period and carries an interest of 3/8 of one per cent per year on top of the going bank interest rates for the first 3 1/2 years and a half per cent over the prevailing rate for the following 4 1/2 years. The GIB is the second-largest of 64 offshore banks operating in Bahrain and handles all aspects of the loan except for documentation which will be handled by Chase Manhattan Bank.

Gulf Air to raise capital to \$170m

ABU DHABI (R) — Gulf Air is to raise its capital to 64 million Bahraini dinars (\$170 million) from 40 million (\$106 million), the official news agency WAM has reported. The airline's chairman Ali Ibrahim Al Malki said the increase would be financed from Gulf Air reserves. WAM reported. Gulf Air, owned jointly by Bahrain, Qatar, the emirate of Abu Dhabi and Oman netted a profit of 2.58 million dinars (\$6.8 million) in 1988, after a loss of 2.9 million dinars (\$7.7 million) in 1987. In April, Gulf Air said it would pay a billion dollars for 18 new Boeing and Airbus aircraft over the next five years, nearly doubling the size of its fleet.

Aeroflot invests in Cypriot tourism

NICOSIA (AP) — The Soviet state airline, Aeroflot, has joined forces with a Cypriot tourist firm for the construction of a 500-bed hotel and other tourist developments in Cyprus worth \$170 million, the Cyprus News Agency has reported. The airline's chairman, Groutas Tours, formed a new jointly-owned firm with the Soviet airline to handle the investment, the agency added. The new firm, called Aeroflot, would also buy two Soviet-made passenger ships to link Cyprus with neighbouring countries. Aeroflot Deputy General Manager Boris Ligachov said a second four-star, 500-bed hotel, similar to the one to be built in Cyprus, would also be built in the Soviet Union by the same company at a later stage. The new company planned to transform Cyprus into a tourist centre linking Europe with the Middle East and Africa, he said. Cyprus earns nearly \$800 million annually in foreign exchange from its booming tourism industry, which last year catered to 1.1 million mainly European visitors.

Aramex wins seat in ACCA panel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Aramex International Courier, the Jordanian courier company with an extensive international worldwide network has been elected to the international committee of Air Courier Conference of America (ACCA). ACCA members include other multinational courier companies such as Federal Express, DHL and TNT Skypak. ACCA membership promotes and protects the interests of courier companies, operating in the United States, in the legal, regulatory, political and commercial fields, in addition to various international activities.

CBJ rolls up sleeves today

AMMAN (J.T.) — As of Saturday, the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) will start intervening in the market in order to defend the value of the Jordanian dinar and achieve stability for its price in all money markets, CBJ Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi said Thursday.

Speaking at a meeting with directors of banks and financial institutions Thursday, Nabulsi said the intervention will take the form of selling dollars to banks and institutions to meet currency demand for education and medical treatment abroad and for pilgrimage purposes. He said foreign currency will be provided by banks at the official rate.

He did not indicate where the CBJ would get the foreign exchange needed for the intervention but cited the implementation

of the "economic readjustment programme" agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Arab aid as "non-traditional" means that would guarantee the Kingdom its needed hard currency.

Nabulsi said the CBJ will increase its intervention according to market developments and public response. He expressed confidence that the CBJ would in the coming month expand not only the scale of such intervention but also its effectiveness.

Last week, Finance Minister Bassel Jarad said the country's shortfall of foreign exchange this year amounted to \$900 million to be covered through the rescheduling of the Kingdom's \$7 billion debts as well as through Arab aid and new concessional loans.

Jordanian officials are due to seek rescheduling of the Kingdom's debt this month in meeting with government and financing institutions in Paris and with commercial banks in London.

Nabulsi said the CBJ is currently studying the idea of providing banks and financial institutions with foreign currencies needed to meet import demands.

In an earlier interview with the Jordan Times, Nabulsi said the Kingdom may free 140,000 ounces

of its 600,000 ounces of gold reserves in exchange for a loan that would help overcome the foreign exchange shortage. If the loan is secured within the near future, the gold would be released, he said.

The CBJ governor admitted that one of the Kingdom's key sources of foreign currency — remittance of money by Jordanians working abroad — had declined. The only way to raise the level of these remittances he said was by boosting confidence in the Jordanian dinar and by stabilising the monetary situation in the country.

The CBJ governor said the IMF had drawn up a several-year programme during which it will provide \$100 million over the period of one and a half years.

OECD report forecasts Turkish economic retreat

ISTANBUL (R) — Economic austerity policies are set to push Turkey's current account into deficit in 1989 after a rare surplus last year and economic growth will slow, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has said.

Tight fiscal policies pursued since last year were likely to cut growth in exports this year, the OECD said in a report. Unemployment was likely to increase and inflation might rise after falling in recent months.

The report predicted a \$750 million current account deficit for 1989 and a deficit of \$500 million next year. Last year Turkey ran up a \$1.5 billion surplus, its first since 1973.

Bankers said the surplus was caused by high tourism revenues together with lower growth in imports resulting from austerity

measures such as curbs on government spending.

The semi-annual report predicted that gross national product (GNP) would grow by 3.25 per cent this year, down from 3.4 per cent in 1988 and 7.4 per cent in 1987.

GNP would recover to grow by 4.5 per cent in 1990, it added.

Further public spending cuts and higher tax rates would be difficult to implement in 1989, the report said.

Turkey has been hit by widespread labour unrest this year over pay and the ruling Motherland Party of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal was defeated in local elections, largely because of discontent over the economy.

The OECD report said exports would probably rise five per cent in 1989, after surging 14.5 per cent last year. In 1990 they would

rise 6.5 per cent.

Imports would rise 5.5 per cent in this year and in 1990 after rising 1.3 per cent last year.

The 24-nation Paris-based OECD report added that inflation was likely to rise, after falling to an annual rate of 62.8 per cent in May from 87.5 per cent last November.

Unemployment was likely to reach an official 17.25 per cent in 1990 from 15.9 per cent in 1988.

Peter Poullada, vice-president at Bankers Trust Co. in London, told Reuters that Turkey needed to reduce its external debt. The debt stood at \$37.7 billion at the end of 1988, down from \$38.3 billion a year earlier.

"The big question this year is whether the Turkish current account's structural trend will be well-managed... the answer is to reduce the stock of debt," he



Turgut Ozal

said. "Turkey's debt service requirement is too high compared to the size of its economy and on top of that everyone is worried about its political atmosphere," said a senior banker with a major British bank in London.

"And no one is knocking the doors at the moment to lend to Turkey," he noted.

Bankers said Turkey's economic prospects were linked to the political future of Ozal, who has liberalised the economy since he came to power in 1983.

Dollar comes under pressure

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Rising European interest rates are unlikely to deflect the Federal Reserve (Fed) from relaxing U.S. credit next week if the economy, shows further signs of weakness, according to economists.

Past rate increases in Europe have often fuelled speculation of matching moves by the U.S. central bank because of a need to defend the dollar.

But with the dollar now riding

high and concern mounting that the recent economic slowdown could turn into a recession, many economists not only rule out higher American interest rates but say the cost of money will drop before long.

Because the European actions, which were led by West Germany's Bundesbank Thursday and followed by six other central banks, are unlikely to have a knock-on effect in the United States, the Bush administration took a relaxed view.

In the past, officials have sometimes criticised rate increases that they considered over-hasty.

"To the extent that they provide for more sustainable long-term growth in Europe without overheating, it's beneficial," Antonio Villamil, the Commerce Department's chief economist, told Reuters.

He said he had detected no great concern about the rate rises. The Treasury Department had no comment.

Speculation immediately swirled in financial markets that leading industrial nations had struck a deal to nudge the dollar down to more comfortable levels

by reducing the interest-rate differential that the dollar enjoys over other leading currencies.

According to this line of thinking, the Fed would lend a helping hand by trimming U.S. rates, perhaps when its policy-making Federal Open Market Committee meets next week.

Economists said domestic considerations could probably justify a modest drop.

Personal spending, after adjusting for inflation, has stagnated in the past two months. Job growth has slumped. The money supply is barely expanding. And the government's main forecasting gauge, the index of leading economic indicators, has fallen in three of the past four months.

Wednesday's biggest-than-expected 1.2 per cent drop in the May index of leading indicators, coupled with the rising cost of money in Europe, gave Wall Street the recession jitters the following day.

But economists said there are equally powerful reasons for concluding that Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan is unlikely to push market rates down by more than a quarter-point in the near term

from their current level of about 9 1/2 per cent.

The strongest argument for caution — one that is likely to be emphasised by the Fed's regional bank presidents — is that the economy needs to grow slowly for a considerable time in order to bring inflation down.

Although Fed officials point out that inflation has been boosted by one-time rises in oil and food costs, the fact remains that consumer price inflation is running at an annualised 6.7 per cent so far this year compared with 4.4 per cent in 1987 and 1988.

David Henderson, chief economist of the influential Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, said U.S. interest rates may have to rise — not fall — by half a percentage point by the end of 1989 to make doubly sure that consumer prices remain stable.

Meanwhile, federal bank regulators estimated Thursday they will spend \$2 billion to rescue the 20 failed banks of the Dallas-based MCorp in the second costliest bank rescue in history.

Tehran emerges as world's most expensive city

GENEVA (R) — Tehran has jumped over Tokyo and Osaka to become the world's most expensive city, a private consultant agency has said.

The Iranian capital, third last year, leapt to first place because of high inflation and a scarcity of consumer goods. Business International said in its twice-yearly survey.

The Geneva-based company used New York as a base of 100 and converted all currencies to U.S. dollars on April 3, 1989. Its findings put the cost-of-living index for Tehran at 209.

Tokyo and Osaka/Kobe, the world's most expensive cities for the past four years, were relegated to second and third with 202 and 200 respectively.

The survey took into account the cost of a shopping basket of food items, alcoholic drinks, household supplies, personal care items, tobacco, utilities, clothing, domestic

help, recreation, entertainment and transport. The African cities of Libreville (168), Brazzaville (164), Louga (155), Douala (148) and Abidjan (142) ranked in the top 10.

Only remained Europe's most expensive city with a ranking of 142, with Helsinki second with 136. The index for the Swiss cities of Geneva and Zurich dropped to 118 and 117 from 123 for both last December.

Tel Aviv (118) topped the list in the Middle East.

Five of the six cheapest cities are in Latin America. They are Buenos Aires (45), Rio de Janeiro (45), Caracas (42), Sao Paulo (42) and Quito (34). The Ecuadorian capital ousted Caracas as the world's cheapest.

Montreal was given a 101 rating, on a par with New York, Adelaide, Toronto and Wellington.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, June 29, 1989					
Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell			
			French franc	81.9	85.7
			Japanese yen (for 100)	364.8	368.7
U.S. dollar	565.3	571.3	Dutch guilder	25.5	25.1
Pound Sterling	881.0	889.8	Swedish crown	55.1	59.0
Deutsche mark	281.0	287.9	Italian lire (for 100)	39.8	40.2
Swiss franc	335.0	338.4	Belgian franc (for 10)	17.8	17.2

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	June 24-28	June 17-21
Daily average	JD 1,389,536	JD 1,642,225
Total volume	JD 6,947,678	JD 8,211,125
Total shares	3,912,382	4,590,891
No. of contracts	4,013	4,727
Sectoral trading:		
Industrial	JD 4,301,932 (61.9%)	JD 4,858,472 (59.2%)
Financial	JD 1,574,331 (22.7%)	JD 2,222,010 (28.3%)
Service	(8.8%)	(10.9%)
Insurance	(6.6%)	(1.7%)
Share price index	127.9	130.00
No. of companies	64	63
Price movement (rise)	24	32
(decline)	26	30
(stable)	14	11

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.5490/500	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1955/65	Canadian dollar
	1.9518/25	Deutsche marks
	2.2010/20	Dutch guilders
	1.6715/25	Swiss francs
	40.85/90	Belgian francs
	6.6275/25	French francs
	1412/1413	Italian lire
	143.90/144.00	Japanese yen
	6.6390/440	Swedish crowns
	7.1280/330	Norwegian crowns
	7.5900/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	371.30/371.70	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — Australian shares closed slightly easier amid an afternoon stampede of June expiry options-related trading. The All Ordinaries fell 3.8 points to close at 1,521.1.

TOKYO — Sporadic index-linked buying by trust funds rescued share prices from several troughs and they closed mixed in thin trading. Jittery investors held back as political uncertainty and its effect on the yen multiplied the number of Tokyo bears. The Nikkei dropped 7.62 to close at 32,948.69.

HONG KONG — Prices ended little changed as the market retrieved losses and gave up gains in a day of see-saw trading. The Hang Seng index fell 1.41 to 2,273.91.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed generally lower on profit-taking after several days of gains. The Straits Times industrial index fell 7.62 to 1,307.67.

BOMBAY — Share prices ended mixed in heavy trading for the new two-week account, marked by widespread buying by state-owned investment trusts. Tata Steel, which reported good results Thursday, shot up 42.5 rupees to 1,542.5.

FRANKFURT — Shares plunged 1.2 per cent as the market reacted negatively to European interest rate rises and growing concern that the U.S. could be facing a recession. The DAX index fell 18.21 points to 1,473.72.

ZURICH — Prices closed weaker than above their lows. The all-share Swiss index fell 4.6 to 1,094.5.

PARIS — Prices at mid-session had recovered from their opening lows in quiet trading dominated by technical factors.

LONDON — A larger than expected early fall on Wall Street saw an already weak U.K. market move lower in late trading, with fund managers keeping to the sidelines on the last day of the quarter and of the account. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 23.4 at 2,158.6.

NEW YORK — A futures cash-stock index and the Dow 30 index both fell through technical support levels. The market was swept by concern that the slowing economy could end in recession. The Dow was down 26 at 2,432 in mid-morning.

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Sponsored swim makes JD 6,000 for charity

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Prince Ra'd opened a fundraising event for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation Friday at the Royal Sports City by swimming 26 lengths of the Olympic-sized pool.

Maria-Claire Kafafago, a member of the managing board of the foundation who conceived and organized the event, told the Jordan Times the society was expecting the raise between JD 6,000 and 7,000 from the event.

Explaining this first sponsored swim, she said "I wanted to do something which had not yet happened in Jordan. With the current economic difficulties, we have to be more creative to raise money."

Around 300 swimmers took part, each having found sponsors beforehand who promised to pay them a certain amount for each length of the pool they complete. The youngest participant was 4-year-old Omar Kafafago, who managed 2 lengths. Adil Rashid, a 16-year-old girl, swam the longest, some 106 lengths (over 5 km).

Despite the good turn out, Kafafago was disappointed not to have more children turn up.

"Unfortunately, the charity swim was mistaken for a race and that discouraged many people who love swimming but who hate racing." The foundation had originally distributed some 550 sponsorship forms among schools.

The foundation plans to hold the event next June and hopes the concept will be more widely understood by then.

Among the sponsors was His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, who donated an entire month of his army salary to some swimmers.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

CANADIAN SPRINTER TESTIFIES — Angela Bailey, Canada's No. 2 female sprinter, told a federal inquiry in Toronto Wednesday she never used any performance-enhancing drugs before the Seoul Olympic but checked into possible effects and side-effects. Bailey, an outspoken drug opponent, admitted she made calls to a Toronto doctor, but said they were out of frustration, intended more as a fact-finding mission than an attempt to obtain muscle-building chemicals like steroids. "It didn't matter whether you were going in with natural talent anymore. You could just go to a pharmacy and you could be the fastest athlete in the world," she told Mr. Justice Charles Dubin, who heads the inquiry sparked by the scandal of sprinter Ben Johnson, who was forced to give up his Olympic medal because of steroid use. (AP)

MIDNIGHT DIVERSION FLOUNDERING — Things are looking a little dark for Atlanta's fledgling midnight basketball league. The proposed league, meant to give 17- to 21 year-olds a late-night alternative to the drug-plagued streets, would feature regular basketball games and career planning workshops, lasting until 3 a.m. But the program has been on hold for three weeks as founder Doug Mangrum and Urban Training Atlanta, a non-profit organization providing administrative support, search for \$5,000 to pay for referees, security and insurance. "I'm not a politician," Mangrum said, adding that he's had problems squeezing funds from the city and Fulton County. Meanwhile, the turnout has been less than standing-room-only. The league's first attempt at a player draft, with Atlanta Hawks Cliff Levingston and Kevin Willis looking on, drew only about a dozen players after a nasty thunderstorm June 14. "Showing young kids in the community that we do care will help them a lot," Willis said at the first MBL draft. "You just need one kid to see how valuable his life is." (AP)

GIANTS 12, CUBS 2 — Pitcher Scott Garretts hit the ball so well in the New York that it cost him a chance to win a game. Garretts' two-run triple was one of eight straight hits during a seven-run outburst in the second inning Thursday that sent the San Francisco Giants over Chicago 12-2. The Cubs' seventh consecutive loss. But Garretts aggravated his left hamstring injury while running out the hit and left the game. His replacement, Jeff Brantley, pitched five innings for his first decision of the season. "I went to stop and I felt something pop," said Garretts, a 172 career batter with two triples in 134 at-bats. Rookie Jeff Brantley went into the game as a pinch runner for Garretts and became the Giants' next pitcher. Brantley pitched five innings of one-run ball and won his first major-league decision. (AP)

TOP REFEREE SLAMS PLAYERS AS 'HOOLIGANS' — Italy's top soccer referee Friday in Rome accused players of acting like hooligans and demanded tougher sanctions to stamp out violence on the pitch. Cesare Gussoni, head of the National Referees' Commission, said the past season had been played in a "climate of war" that had spread from the terraces to the turf. He was speaking to the newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport after widespread condemnation in Italy of Wednesday's Italian Cup final, which became a battle of fouls between UEFA Cup winners Napoli and losing European Cup Winners' Cup finalists Sampdoria. "Napoli-Sampdoria set the seal on a season lived in a climate of war... acts of hooliganism aren't just occurring outside the stadiums and on the terraces but are now spreading dangerously to the people on the pitch," Gussoni said. "It is right to demand far more severe sanctions," Gussoni said, proposing a new-style watchdog body that would bring disciplinary action against players, team officials and referees who misbehaved. (R)

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Peterson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Existing relationships may receive a shot in the arm today. A need to communicate, resolve hidden matters, and expand friendships are key issues.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): A family member may carry over business. Maintain a cheerful attitude. A frenzy of activity can leave your emotions shattered.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Take a direct and positive approach to improve a shaky relationship. Don't retreat! Do something exciting to revive your spirits.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): After a slow start, the pace picks up. Small talk comes easily. Show your love for family members with actions instead of words.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Improve the quality of your life. Old feelings are brought to the surface and must be dealt with now. You question the meaning of love.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Laying down reasonable rules will solve a parenting problem. An indulgent attitude can have you spending money on others.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Be gentle and understanding when others do not feel the same as you do. Promote family harmony. Concentrate on siblings and pets.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Your energy system may be dragging along in the morning. Wake up time comes later when you find yourself surrounded with humor and fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Move about socially, either at home or at a favorite place. You are attracted to the finer things in life. Spirited people fill the day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You feel expansive and lucky. Use common sense in dealing with clandestine affairs. Overconfidence is dangerous, unless managed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Self-doubt may have you asking whether you are in the right slot of life. Boredom also has this effect on you. Chase the rat — not your life!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Don't spend it all before you pay the bills. Consider the financial future and be honest with your budget. Stay close to home.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Horizons expand and bring you more valuable experiences. There is a tendency today to nag others to get your own way. Be patient!

THE Daily Crossword by Martha J. De Witz

ACROSS

1. Very to catch
2. Top edge
3. Oppressive one
4. Miss Oyl
5. Assuage
6. Guam harbor
7. Highway hazard
8. Hit with a pitch
9. True copy in law
10. Plair
11. Kennedy
12. Inebriated
13. Sounds of delight
14. Eye make-up
15. Pave
16. Moon
17. Duffer's dream
18. Beetle Bailey's boss
19. War god
20. Doctors' gp.
21. Bull or buck
22. That is
23. Novel
24. Yarned
25. Actor Beatty
26. Outdoor sign
27. Pigeon
28. Ear-shaped
29. Surpass
30. Fence
31. Campaign
32. Features
33. Appear
34. Smugglers' vessel
35. Exchange premium
36. Root part
37. Mele
38. Tyles
39. Stained
40. Realizes

DOWN

1. Peak where
2. Mountains
3. Assembly
4. Protect
5. Gets out of back
6. Borscht need
7. Zodiac sign
8. Equal prof.
9. Teacher
10. Postpone
11. Ways to catch
12. Galway Bay
13. Carry on
14. Art
15. Movement
16. Anecdote collections
17. Triangle type
18. Well island
19. Forcefully
20. Throng
21. 65 or 65 a.g.
22. Plane
23. Tag
24. Piping
25. Curve
26. Drs.' org.
27. "Oh, — in England..."
28. Best list
29. Order words
30. Fast
31. Anklebones
32. Jacket type
33. Some jets
34. Settle
35. Adam's rib

Saturday's Puzzle Solver:

Across: 1. Very to catch: 17A. 2. Top edge: 2B. 3. Oppressive one: 3C. 4. Miss Oyl: 4D. 5. Assuage: 5E. 6. Guam harbor: 6F. 7. Highway hazard: 7G. 8. Hit with a pitch: 8H. 9. True copy in law: 9I. 10. Plair: 10J. 11. Kennedy: 11K. 12. Inebriated: 12L. 13. Sounds of delight: 13M. 14. Eye make-up: 14N. 15. Pave: 15O. 16. Moon: 16P. 17. Duffer's dream: 17Q. 18. Beetle Bailey's boss: 18R. 19. War god: 19S. 20. Doctors' gp.: 20T. 21. Bull or buck: 21U. 22. That is: 22V. 23. Novel: 23W. 24. Yarned: 24X. 25. Actor Beatty: 25Y. 26. Outdoor sign: 26Z. 27. Pigeon: 27AA. 28. Ear-shaped: 28AB. 29. Surpass: 29AC. 30. Fence: 30AD. 31. Campaign: 31AE. 32. Features: 32AF. 33. Appear: 33AG. 34. Smugglers' vessel: 34AH. 35. Exchange premium: 35AI. 36. Root part: 36AJ. 37. Mele: 37AK. 38. Tyles: 38AL. 39. Stained: 39AM. 40. Realizes: 40AN.

Down: 1. Peak where: 1D. 2. Mountains: 2E. 3. Assembly: 3F. 4. Protect: 4G. 5. Gets out of back: 5H. 6. Borscht need: 6I. 7. Zodiac sign: 7J. 8. Equal prof.: 8K. 9. Teacher: 9L. 10. Postpone: 10M. 11. Ways to catch: 11N. 12. Galway Bay: 12O. 13. Carry on: 13P. 14. Art: 14Q. 15. Movement: 15R. 16. Anecdote collections: 16S. 17. Triangle type: 17T. 18. Well island: 18U. 19. Forcefully: 19V. 20. Throng: 20W. 21. 65 or 65 a.g.: 21X. 22. Plane: 22Y. 23. Tag: 23Z. 24. Piping: 24AA. 25. Curve: 25AB. 26. Drs.' org.: 26AC. 27. "Oh, — in England...": 27AD. 28. Best list: 28AE. 29. Order words: 29AF. 30. Fast: 30AG. 31. Anklebones: 31AH. 32. Jacket type: 32AI. 33. Some jets: 33AJ. 34. Settle: 34AK. 35. Adam's rib: 35AL.

Sanchez, Edberg, Lendl advance

WIMBLEDON (Agencies) — Arantxa Sanchez, champion of the clay courts of Paris two weeks ago, proved Friday she also can play on grass by holding off two match points by Italy's Raffaella Reggi to score a centre court victory at Wimbledon.

Playing her third match in three days, Sanchez, a 17-year-old Spaniard with the touch of a veteran, used drop shots and a baseline game for a come-from-behind 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory over Reggi.

The men's French Open champ, 17-year-old Michael Chang of the United States, won his second-round match as well, the first time he ever has moved into the third round at the all England club. He beat Ronald Agener of Haiti 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, 7-5.

Stefan Edberg, Wimbledon's defending men's champ, beat Todd Woodbridge 6-4, 6-4, 1-6, 7-6, in the completion of a second-round match suspended by darkness Thursday. Top-seeded Ivan Lendl beat Tomas Carbonell of Spain 7-6, 6-3, 6-1 in the third round, his first straight-set victory of the tournament.

Also winning on a day of intermittent sunshine and showers were defending women's champion Steffi Graf and the woman she beat last year for the title, Martina Navratilova, who came back from an overnight break to complete a three-set victory over Australian qualifier Kristine Radford.

Aaron Krickstein, the men's 13th seed from the United States, and women's 11th seeded Monica Seles of Yugoslavia were others advancing, but Natalia Zvereva, the women's ninth seed from the Soviet Union, was upset by Sweden's Catarina Lindqvist 7-6, 4-6.

McEnroe happy he won

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Thursday, former champions John McEnroe and Chris Evert climbed out of deep holes to move into the third round at Wimbledon, while two top women's seeds were upset.

McEnroe, who rallied from two sets down to beat Darren Cahill in the first round, tamed his temper and regained his touch after falling behind in the third set to down fellow American Richey Reneberg 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.

"It's not going to be easy," said McEnroe, who was warned for racket abuse in the third set. "When people play me, they really want to do well. I'm just happy I won. That's the important thing."

Evert, who took a month off this summer because she was playing so poorly, fought back from a 5-1 deficit in the first set to defeat American Hu Na 7-5, 6-3.

Two-time champion Boris Becker breezed into the third round with a 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 victory over Richard Matuszewski of the United States after play began following a three-hour rain delay.

But the no. 3 women's seed, Gabriela Sabatini, and no. 5 Zina Garrison were ousted from the grass-court tournament. Rosalyn Fairbank of South Africa, who nearly upset eighth-seeded Martina Navratilova in the quarterfinals last year, beat Sabatini 6-4, 6-3. Garrison, a semifinalist here in 1985, rallied from a 5-0 deficit in the final set and saved four match points before falling to Australian Louise Field 1-6, 6-2, 7-5.

"The chances were there, I just didn't take them," Garrison said.

"It's not like she blew me off the court."

Navratilova had a tough time in a match that did not finish, splitting two sets against a qualifier from Australia.

French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez, ninth-seeded Natalia Zvereva, no. 12 Mary Joe Fernandez, no. 14 Hana Mandlikova and no. 15 Lori McNeil advanced to the third round with straight-set wins.

Miloslav Mecir, the no. 7 men's seed and a semifinalist last year, rallied from two sets down to beat Australian Mark Kratzmann 6-7, 4-6, 6-1, 7-5, 7-5 in a match that was suspended by darkness Wednesday. In another match that spanned two days, 13th-seeded Aaron Krickstein eliminated Javier Fana in five sets.

Fourth-seeded Mats Wilander reached the third round with a straight-set victory over Karel Novacek of Czechoslovakia, but 15th-seeded Mikael Pernfors was upset by Swedish countryman Peter Lundgren 7-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Navratilova, the no. 2 women's seed, lost the first set against Australian Kristine Radford and was trailing 3-1 in the second before rallying to win the final five games and even the match as darkness fell.

McEnroe lost five games in a row as Reneberg won the second set and took a 2-0 lead in the third. After serving the fifth of his eight double-faults to drop the opening game of the third set, McEnroe tossed his racket and received a warning from umpire Bruno Rebeuh of France.

The admonishment infuriated the three-time champion, who had slammed his racket to the court several times earlier in the match.



Sanchez — another victory

"That took a lot of guts... an excellent decision." McEnroe sneered at Rebeuh. "I bet it says in the rule book that if he throws his racket, call racket abuse. An excellent choice."

Although he questioned some line calls and muttered repeatedly to himself, McEnroe kept his temper in check the rest of the way and turned his game around just when I looked like the might be eliminated in the second round at Wimbledon for the second year in a row.

With Reneberg leading 4-0 and needing just one point for a 4-2 lead in the third set, McEnroe battled back to break the former Southern Methodist University star when he sent a volley over the baseline.

The fifth-seeded McEnroe then broke Reneberg at love in the eighth game and finished the set with an ace. Reneberg grabbed a 5-2 lead in the final set before McEnroe won five straight games to take the match.

"He tried hard. I tried hard," McEnroe said. "He had games where he got hot and I had games where I got hot. I just got hotter at a better time."

Rose asks court to keep probe under tabs

CINCINNATI, Ohio (R) — U.S. baseball great Pete Rose, hit by new allegations that he once expressed an interest in cocaine trafficking, asked an appeals court Wednesday to continue blocking a disciplinary hearing into charges that he bet on baseball games.

Lawyers for the Cincinnati Reds manager, who faces a possible lifetime ban from baseball if the gambling allegations are proven, told the three-judge first district of Ohio appeals court to let a lower court proceeding continue.

The lower court Sunday blocked for two weeks a disciplinary hearing by baseball commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti, and the commissioner Monday asked the appeals panel to reverse that order.

It was not clear when the appeals panel would issue its decision. If it lets the order stand, the lower court would continue its hearing on Rose's request for a long-term order against a hearing by Giamatti.

Antibo 'blocked by rabbits'

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) — Salvatore Antibo, a gritty runner from Sicily, missed the world 10,000-metre record by just 2.62 seconds at the world games IAAF Mobil Grand Prix track and field meet Thursday night.

The Italian won the featured event before a crowd of 16,000 at the Olympic stadium in 27 minutes, 16.50 seconds after out-kicking Addis Abebe of Ethiopia on the homestretch.

After the race, Antibo blamed the rabbits and other runners for missing the oldest long distance world record for men so narrowly.

"I had to wait for the rabbits during the race," Antibo said. "That's why I lost the world record. I had to work hard myself."

A silver medalist in the 10,000 in last year's Seoul Olympics, Antibo was confident he would outkick Abebe.

"I knew I had a great kick to beat him," Antibo said. "In the end I understood a world record was not possible. But I'm very happy with my time."

Antibo said he will try to beat the world record in Grand Prix meets in West Berlin or Brussels later this season.

Antibo's time was a new Italian record and the second fastest

time ever in the 10,000 metres, one of track's most grueling events.

Fernando Mamede of Portugal, who also competed in the race but finished well back in ninth place, set the world record of 27:13.81 five years ago in Stockholm, Sweden.

Carlos Lopes, another Portuguese runner, was the previous second fastest 10,000 metre runner with 27:17.48, also recorded in Stockholm.

The 27-year-old Antibo, who had predicted a world record prior to the race after a successive four-week training camp at high altitude in Sestriere, Italy, and Abebe changed the lead four times in a furious duel in the final kilometre.

Antibo's experience finally spelled the difference as he caught the 17-year-old Abebe at the top of stretch.

"I simply got beat because of my inexperience," said Abebe, one of the world's most promising long distance runners. "I'm still so young and I don't know how to race against the veterans."

Abebe, who set a world junior record in the 5,000 metres (13:23.17) two weeks ago, finished in 27:17.82 for the fourth fastest time ever.

This was the first time Abebe competed in a major track meet,

but he won the junior race in the world cross country championships at Stavanger, Norway, three months ago.

Francesco Panetta, another Italian and the 1987 world 3,000-metre steeplechase champion, was third in 27:24.16.

Hammou Boutab of Morocco, who was among the leaders until the 7-kilometre mark, dropped back to finish fourth in 27:50.04.

Italian runners also did well in two other races, with Gennaro Di Napoli winning the 1,500 in 3:34.92 and Alessandro Lombruschini finishing runner-up in the 3,000-metre steeplechase.

Di Napoli, a 21-year-old from Milan, kicked strongly in the last 100 metres to overtake Joseph Chesire of Kenya. Chesire was 14 hundredths behind in 3:35.06.

Patrick Sang of Kenya took the 3,000-metre steeplechase in 8:15.06. It was the fastest time of the year in that event.

Brian Diemer, the U.S. outdoor champion, was third in 8:24.05.

American athletes won five events, but Larry Myricks looked like a loser going into the final round of the men's long jump.

But Myricks came up with a 8.34-metre effort to beat Soviet star Robert Emmiyan by 15 centimetres.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Another garden? Last year the only thing that grew was the chiropractor's bill!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

R I L L T
 U G G O E
 U M C A U V
 C E L E E F

WHAT YOU MIGHT DO WITH THE MENU WHEN YOU'RE DINING AT A FISH RESTAURANT.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "C O O L E E S" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ANNOY PLAID WALLOP TWINGE
 Answer: What you might end up with from too much housecleaning—A WINDOW "PAIN"

Peanuts



B.C.



BY JOHNNY HART

Andy Capp



India refuses to end actions against Tigers

NEW DELHI (AP) — India Friday refused to cease its operations against Tamil rebels in Sri Lanka and said a decision on the issue was not possible until the insurgents laid down arms and agreed to participate in democratic processes.

A Foreign Ministry statement said the presence of Indian troops in Sri Lanka's Tamil-dominated northeast province was to ensure "the physical safety and security of all communities" in the area and to meet "the legal aspirations of the Tamils."

The statement was made in response to a request by Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa Thursday to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Premadasa asked Gandhi to order the 45,000 Indian soldiers deployed in Sri Lanka to stop fighting the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the militia spearheading the six-year-old war for an independent Tamil nation.

That request followed an agreement between the Colombo government and the Tigers to cease hostilities against each other. The two sides have been holding talks since last month, their first direct contact since the separatist war began in 1983.

"The latest announcement is meaningless unless it reflects the Liberation Tigers' commitment to the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka," said the Foreign Ministry statement. "And to the giving up of violence, not only against the Sri Lankan government, but also against fellow Tamils and other communities in the north-east province."

"This announcement also loses its significance unless it implies the Tigers' commitment to respect democratic processes," it said. "We are awaiting responses to the above points. As soon as these responses are received, a decision will be taken on the

cessation of offensive action by the Indian peacekeeping forces for disarming the Tigers."

The deployment of the Indian soldiers has become a contentious issue between Colombo and New Delhi. Last month, Premadasa requested India to pull out the troops by the end of July. India refused, saying a hasty withdrawal could lead to even more ethnic violence on the troubled island nation.

India posted troops in Sri Lanka under a peace accord signed by Gandhi and Premadasa's predecessor, Junius R. Jayewardene, in July 1987. The New Delhi-brokered accord, which gave Tamils limited autonomy in exchange for surrendering arms, was rejected by the Tigers after a brief acceptance.

India became involved in the ethnic problems of its southern neighbour because of the sympathies of its own 60 million Tamils for the rebel cause. At least 800 Indian soldiers and 1,500 Tamils have been killed after the Tigers rejected the accord and began fighting the Indians.

The presence of the Indian soldiers, however, is supported by other Tamil militant groups that accepted the 1987 peace plan. Those groups are targeted by the Tigers as traitors.

Tamils comprise 16 per cent of Sri Lanka's 18 million people. They claim they are discriminated against by the majority Sinhalese, who make up 75 per cent of the population and control the army and the government.

Seoul police break up pro-unification rally

SEOUL (AP) — Riot police stormed a university Friday and broke up an anti-government rally of 4,000 students promoting a march to communist North Korea.

Witnesses said at least 12 students were injured, but no injury count was released by authorities. About 3,000 riot troops used cutters to open locked iron gates and charged into Hanyang University in eastern Seoul, firing hundreds of tear-gas shells over the hilly campus.

Riot police, trained in the martial arts and protected by shields and five armoured vehicles, easily overpowered and arrested hundreds of students totting steel bars, clubs and firebombs. Many of the students fled into school buildings or nearby neighbourhoods.

Riot troopers were seen smashing windows and charging into some school buildings to arrest fleeing students. Police kicked and punched arrested students, tore down banners and smashed desks and other equipment used for rallies.

Some protesters hurled rocks from the top of school building as riot troopers took away their colleagues. The police attack followed violent clashes around the gates where a female student was seriously injured when she fell from a five-metre-high wall on to pavement.

Witnesses said her fall was a suicide attempt to protest a government ban on planned marches across the border to an international youth festival in North Korea.

A delegate from a radical student group has defied a government ban and secretly left for Pyongyang to attend the festival, a group leader said.

"We have decided that taking part in the Pyongyang festival will be an invaluable step towards a peaceful reunification of the fatherland," Imm Jon-Sok, chairman of the Chondaehyop National Student Alliance, told reporters.

He said Im Su-Kyong, a 22-year-old student at Seoul's Hankook University of Foreign Studies, arrived in East Berlin Thursday on her way to Pyongyang to represent Chondaehyop.

Government prosecutors said Im would be arrested on return and charged under national security laws banning unofficial contacts with the communist North.



Bodies of men, women and children lay on coconut palms after a massacre at a chapel in southern Davao del Sur province, southeast of Manila. Thirty-nine people were killed by suspected communist rebels in the attack Sunday.

Revenge killings feared in Mindanao

DIGOS, Philippines (AP) — Communist rebels who massacred 39 villagers in a church last weekend killed some of their own brothers and cousins, survivors said.

Officials said male survivors have gone into the hills, apparently to prepare for "pangayao," an ancient tribal ritual of revenge killing.

The local pastor reported Wednesday that the rebels opened fire because anti-Marxist vigilantes in the congregation wanted to fight when the insurgents suggested they talk.

Thirty-nine people died in Sunday's rebel attack at a United Church of Christ chapel in the remote mountain village of Rano, 1,025 kilometres southeast of Manila on Mindanao Island. Many of the dead were women and children. Some survivors say two rebels also were killed.

The rebel New People's Army (NPA) claimed its guerrillas fired in self-defence.

Army Major Conrado Benitez said two men beheaded in Sunday's killings were brothers of one rebel. At least 10 more victims were relatives of the guerrillas, he said.

"We know them. They are our cousins," villager Julie Canedo told reporters.

Residents have fled to nearby villages and only members of the vigilante group and a platoon of soldiers remain at Rano.

Military officials told reporters here that they are already using the massacre to discredit the guerrillas among the rural population.

Reporters taken by the military to the massacre site, located outside this eastern Mindanao city, saw bullet holes in bamboo walls of peasant huts.

One hut included a partially burned Bible, bloodstained sandals and human remains.

President Corazon Aquino, whose government inherited the 20-year-old insurgency to create a communist state, branded the attack a "deplorable rebel atrocity."

The United Church of Christ condemned the rebels for a "dastardly and heinous act."

Church officials also released a report by local pastor Delfin Bualan, who was not at the church when the shooting began.

New geisha scandals explode around Uno

TOKYO (Agencies) — Prime Minister Souda Uno, dogged by charges and fresh reports that he paid women for sex, may resign after failing to rally support for Japan's ruling party, four major newspapers reported Friday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe said, however, that there was no plan to have anyone other than Uno represent Japan at the Paris summit of the seven major industrialised nations beginning July 14.

"We keep having, every day, study sessions with Mr. Uno and we are confident that our government will be well represented at the summit," Watanabe said.

Uno himself was laying low Friday after a long-awaited report of a new sex scandal involving an underage geisha appeared in a gossip magazine.

Neither the prime minister, his personal secretary nor the

ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) had any comment to make on the article in the popular magazine Focus.

Focus also reported that a close Uno aide was found to have belonged to a prostitution club.

Uno has vehemently denied reports that he threatened to resign earlier this week after hearing that the article was about to be published.

According to an Uno aide quoted in the article, Uno said: "For God's sake, there's no truth in it."

"To begin with, I don't have that kind of money," Uno was quoted as saying.

The article made mention of the traditional custom of ceremonial defecation of apprentice geisha, but did not say Uno had followed the custom.

Uno's personal secretary could not say what the premier's reaction was to the Focus

story after it hit the newstands.

"I don't know," Uno's secretary said. "I have no comment to make."

Another of Uno's alleged paramours, a 60-year-old former geisha, was interviewed on television Friday about her liaison with Uno some 30 years ago.

The woman said she and Uno were lovers while he was a young Shiga assemblyman, but he suddenly dropped her.

Another woman, a 40-year-old former geisha, also appeared on television giving details of an affair with Uno which she said ended three years ago.

The Focus article comes out two days before the LDP faces Tokyo's metropolitan assembly elections.

LDP members have said they dread the results Sunday after a succession of sex scandal reports involving Uno.

The Tokyo elections are the last major test for the embattled LDP before upper house elections July 23.

Of 126 upper house seats up for grabs, the LDP must win 54 to retain a majority. LDP officials have said 45 is probably the best the party can do.

The upper house polls are a run-up to possible early general elections, which could be held as soon as October.

Those elections would actually determine who runs Japan, since the upper house has little power.

Uno succeeded Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who stepped down to take responsibility for the Recruit influence-peddling scandal. The scandal tainted many of the members of the party that has governed Japan for 34 years.

If Uno should step down, Japan could face an early national election.

Haughey forced to reign but expected to talk his way back

DUBLIN (R) — Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey, humbled in an election he never had called, faces three days of tough backroom bargaining if he is to win a fourth term of office.

Haughey, known as the great survivor of Irish politics, resigned Thursday night after parliament refused to endorse him as prime minister — the first time it has failed to choose a new leader.

"This is an unprecedented situation in our history," he said with feeling before driving off to tender his resignation to President Patrick Hillery.

But the abrasive self-made millionaire, who remains caretaker

prime minister until Monday when parliament reconvenes, has displayed consummate skills as a wheeler-dealer and few doubt that he will succeed in holding on to power.

The vote in parliament was unprecedented in Ireland's 68-year history.

Haughey, who seriously miscalculated in calling the June 15 election, initially just asked for parliament to adjourn until Monday but opposition parties forced him into an embarrassing climb-down, insisting he should also follow the Irish constitution and resign.

His Fianna Fail Party, despite losing seats in the election, remains the largest single party with 77 seats in the 165-seat chamber but it is six seats short of an overall majority.

The six seats Haughey needs for that elusive majority could come from the Progressive Democrats, set up three years ago by his arch enemy, Desmond O'Malley.

Haughey rejected the main opposition leader, Alan Dukes of the 55-seat Fine Gael Party, when he asked for half the cabinet seats and the post of prime minister in rotation.

That leaves O'Malley, who set up his party to break the Fine



Charles Haughey

Gael-Fianna Fail mould of Irish politics dating back to the civil war of the 1920s, revelling in his new-found role as powerbroker.

Minister fired in Cuban drug affair

HAVANA (Agencies) — Cuba's interior minister, the third-ranking official in the government and a long-time associate of President Fidel Castro, has been fired in the country's growing drug and corruption scandal, which Western diplomats call "Castrogate."

A Communist Party politburo statement signed by Castro said Thursday that General Jose Abrantes had been dismissed as interior minister. He will be replaced by General Abelardo Colome Ibarra.

Abrantes is the second government minister to be fired in the scandal. On June 13, Transport Minister Dioces Torralbas, who fought alongside Castro in the rebel army, was dismissed for "personal conduct."

Abrantes, a student leader before the Cuban revolution and long-time associate of Castro and his brother Raul, became interior minister in December 1985. His mandate then was to root out police corruption.

The politburo statement, published in the official newspaper Granma, said Abrantes bore the responsibility for "the conduct of a group of officials who during the two and a half years carried out with impunity drug trafficking operations."

Western diplomats said the firing was the tip of the iceberg and would be severely damage morale at the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for police and security forces.

In the growing scandal, army General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez has been accused of leading a ring of military and ministry officials who made deals with Colombia's notorious Medellin drug cartel.

Ochoa has been charged with helping to smuggle six tonnes of cocaine into the United States between 1987 and 1989 through Cuban air bases.

A special military tribunal recommended Sunday that Ochoa be court-martialed for high treason and executed by a firing squad.

Official sources, who linked Torralbas with early charges against Ochoa, said his dismissal stemmed from illicit sales of Cuban sugar in Angola.

U.S. officials have questioned the sincerity of Cuba's new war on drugs, partly because of continued reports of smuggling through Cuba.

In its communiqué, the politburo said the new interior minister "should make a deep analysis of the causes and factors that make possible this serious occurrence in the heart of an institution which has had such meritorious and brilliant successes during 30 years of confrontation of the imperialist enemy and the counter-revolution."

Meanwhile, more than 1,000 Cuban exiles took to the streets of Miami to protest against a U.S. order to deport anti-Castro militant Orlando Bosch.

Last week, the Justice Department ordered the deportation of Bosch, acquitted in Venezuela in 1987 of involvement in the bombing of a Cuban jetliner, saying he had a record of "terrorist" activities in the United States and Latin America.

Column 800000

'F-111 could have freed prisoners'

BRISBANE, Australia (R) — A new top security prison in Australia has altered its electronic system after being warned that radar interference from a neighbouring air base could open all the cell doors. Officials at the Berrigan prison in Queensland said Thursday that highly-sensitive radar equipment carried by F-111 fighter bombers could have affected the jail's electronic system, inadvertently opening all the cell doors at once. They said the Australian air force, which has an airbase only 10 kilometres from the jail, had given details of the F-111's equipment and the jail had updated its system accordingly. "It seems to be all clear," an air force spokesman told reporters.

Poisoning an oak

AUSTIN, Texas (R) — A man has been charged with poisoning a 600-year-old mighty oak tree under whose branches the father of Texas is believed to have signed his first treaty with the Indians. No one is quite sure of the details, but police said Thursday that Paul Steadman Cullen poisoned the tree as part of an off-beat religious ritual. Flamboyant billionaire H. Ross Perot has rushed in to try to save the tree, which is known as the "Treaty Oak" and stands three stories tall and is 14 feet in diameter at its trunk. The tree is one of the oldest and largest in one of the largest states in the United States. Legend has it that under its branches, Stephen Austin, the father of Texas, signed his first treaty with the Indians. A police spokesman said that Cullen, 45, was charged with felony criminal mischief and faces up to 20 years in prison. Police said the poisoning took place in February but was not discovered until early June, when its leaves began showing signs of chemical burn and falling off. Perot has promised to pay for the cost of saving the tree. He has arranged for over a dozen scientists, foresters and tree experts to fly to Austin to help devise plans to save it.

200 million yen found in garbage

TOKYO (R) — A garbage collector found over 200 million yen (\$1.5 million) Friday when he tried to demolish a safe at a rubbish dump in Yokohama police said. Police are investigating the origin of the cash. The worker will be allowed to keep it if the owner cannot be traced and there is no link to any crime. In April, two men found a total of over 235 million yen (\$1.68 million) on separate occasions in a bamboo grove in Kawasaki, between Yokohama and Tokyo. After several weeks investigation police found the owner, who admitted dumping the cash to avoid tax.

One in three Japanese favour moving capital

TOKYO (AP) — One in three Japanese favour moving the capital out of Tokyo because the city of 11.6 million is so crowded a government poll indicates. The poll, conducted by the prime minister's office and released Tuesday, found 32.6 per cent of respondents favoured relocation with 17.3 per cent opposed. Another 34.3 per cent were undecided and 16.1 per cent had no answer. Those favouring relocation say it is necessary to correct overconcentration of the population and solve housing and transportation problems. Those opposed say businesses should instead be distributed to place other than Tokyo.

Forced repatriation looms nearer for boat people

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong and Vietnam are near agreement on forced repatriation and some of the 47,000 boat people crammed into the British colony's refugee centres could go back next month, diplomatic sources said Friday.

"I understand the Vietnamese have indicated agreement provided the term forced repatriation isn't used," a diplomat who follows refugee affairs said.

"I also understand Hanoi has guaranteed these people won't be harassed in any way."

Hong Kong has been pushing mandatory return as hundreds of boat people continue to pour into the colony daily.

Secretary for Security Geoffrey Barnes and political adviser Dick Cliff returned to Hong Kong two days ago from talks on repatriation with Vietnamese officials in Hanoi.

Details were kept secret at Vietnam's request though diplomats said broad agreement had been reached in return for financial help in resettling those who go back.

Another diplomatic source said the British ambassador in Vietnam could sign a memorandum

dum of understanding with Vietnamese officials within a couple of weeks.

Earlier this week Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach again ruled out forced repatriation on humanitarian grounds after meeting British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe in London.

So far only 142 refugees have chosen to return and another 236 have volunteered to go.

Their return will be monitored by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to ensure Vietnam keeps its promise that they will not be persecuted.

A UNHCR-sponsored international conference on Indochinese refugees earlier this month decided to speed up voluntary repatriation and introduce screening of new arrivals to determine whether they were economic migrants or genuine refugees.

Officials say only those screened out would be sent back, and Hong Kong would continue to play host to genuine refugees.

So far some 2,000 have been screened and fewer than 200 accepted as refugees. Because

of its charter, the UNHCR would not play any role in forced repatriation.

Hong Kong is pushing for mandatory repatriation because, with 47,000 Vietnamese boat people compared with 72,800 throughout the rest of Asia, it is running out of space and facilities.

Boat people now live in detention centres, disused barracks, tents, dilapidated ferries, and on a group of near deserted islands on the edge of the South China Sea.

Officials say 50,000 is the absolute limit. Once that figure is reached police, prison and administrative services — already stretched — will be unable to cope.

Refugee workers said it was not clear how the government would implement forced repatriation if agreement was reached.

They said it would be impractical to use aircraft and Hong Kong did not have sufficient resources to return refugees by sea, which could involve a large ship and armed guards.

"I suppose they'll be looking to the royal navy," one diplomat said.



Vietnamese refugees housed in temporary shelter aboard a ferry

Probe into call boy ring snares high U.S. circles

WASHINGTON (R) — Top officials in three administrations, using credit cards to pay for male homosexual prostitutes, have been snared in a probe of a call boy ring used by Washington power brokers, sources said.

White House aides to presidents George Bush, Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter have been linked to a ring of high priced call boys who served the desires of well-connected customers, the sources said.

They said the call boys posed as members of an escort service whose fees were charged on major credit cards. The funds laundered through an account set up by a prominent Washington area funeral home director, they said.

Federal prosecutor Jay Stephens acknowledged Thursday that his office "has been investigating allegations involving credit card fraud" after a raid on a two-storey house in an affluent Washington neighbourhood which allegedly served as the ring's headquarters.

"This investigation will be conducted in the same manner as other matters handled by this office," Stephens said in an apparent attempt to quell speculation that the probe would be quashed by pressure from influential quarters.

Neither homosexuality nor prostitution are offences under U.S. federal law. But prostitution is a crime in the District of Columbia and credit card fraud is a federal offence.

Government sources said customers of the ring included not only White House officials but military officers, congressional aides and U.S. and foreign businessmen "with close social ties to Washington's political elite."

"This didn't catch just Republicans, it got Democrats too," one source said in commenting on the scandal, which was revealed by the Washington Times.

According to the newspaper, at least two call boys were included on a nocturnal tour of the White House last July — a tour that requires influence in order to pass the tight security surrounding the executive mansion.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater brushed aside questions on the scandal, telling a reporter: "I don't know anything about it. Nothing at all."

Paul Balch, political personal liaison to the White House for Labour Secretary Elizabeth Dole, admitted to the newspaper that he procured the group's services, beginning last year, out of "loneliness."

